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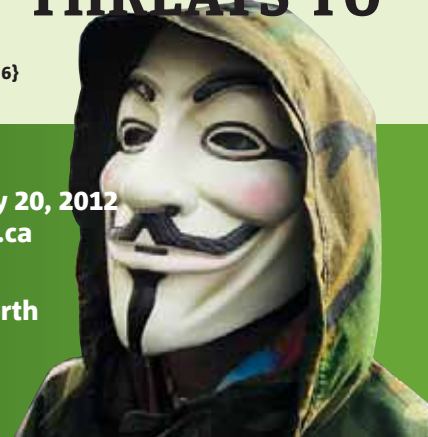
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DATE BONBONS
A TREAT YOU CAN
MAKE WITH THE KIDS

{page 14}



HACK ATTACK
RCMP INVESTIGATING
ANONYMOUS' THREATS TO
VIC TOEWS {page 6}



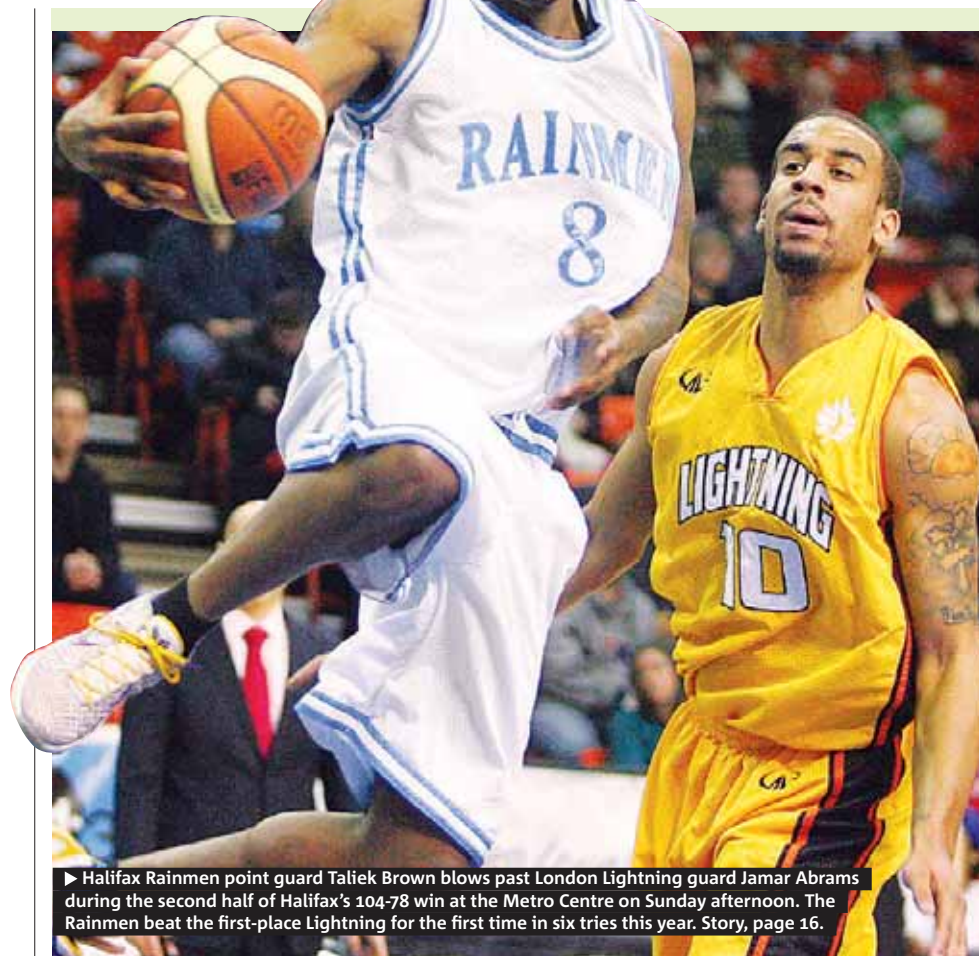
HALIFAX

metro®

Monday, February 20, 2012
www.metronews.ca



News worth
sharing.



► Halifax Rainmen point guard Taliek Brown blows past London Lightning guard Jamar Abrams during the second half of Halifax's 104-78 win at the Metro Centre on Sunday afternoon. The Rainmen beat the first-place Lightning for the first time in six tries this year. Story, page 16.

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Rainmen jump past Lightning for the win

Halifax on strike

► Workers are picketing across HRM

At least the city will have beer to help drown its labour sorrows.

About 130 unionized employees at Oland Brewery voted in favour of a new seven-year deal with their employer Sunday. The details of the contract were not made available, although Labatt spokesman Wade Keller says the deal includes pay increases as well as enhancements to the employees' defined-benefit pension plan — which workers will now pay into.

But the brewery was just one of many skirmishes between unions and management across HRM.

Faculty and staff at Dalhousie University voted 83 per cent in favour of striking on Friday after talks with the school's administration broke off Wednesday. Professors and staff could walk off the job two weeks after a provincial conciliator files their report.

"This should send a message to the Dalhousie Board about the strength of our resolve to get a fair deal," said Anthony Stewart, Dalhousie Faculty Association presi-

dent, in a release.

Talks will resume between the province's district health authorities and CUPE, which represents over 4,000 health-care and clerical workers across the province. The DHAs and the union will negotiate 18 different collective agreements at what the districts are calling a shared "provincial table."

Things aren't going so well for approximately 3,800 workers at Capital Health. On Thursday, the NSGEU announced talks had broken down with the employer. The union is filing for conciliation, and plans to hold a strike vote soon.

And, of course, you're still walking or carpooling to work. The transit strike will roll into Week 3 on Thursday, with no end in sight. This morning, members of the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 508 will make a symbolic gesture by briefly delaying the Access-a-Bus service — which resumes normal operation this week, with Metro Transit supervisors operating it — as it leaves the garage.

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Feds probe possible outbreak at N.S. salmon farm

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is investigating after seafood company Cooke Aquaculture reported a possible virus outbreak at one of its fish farms in Nova Scotia.

The New Brunswick-based company said Friday that it killed salmon in two cages after a suspected outbreak of the infectious salmon anemia virus at one of its farms, though it did not say where it occurred.

The company issued a statement saying it killed the fish after routine tests of its stocks on Feb. 10. It referred questions to the federal and provincial governments.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency said it was investigating the suspected outbreak, but it, too, would not say which fish farm is involved.

Con Kiley, director of the agency's aquatic animal health program, said that information can't be made public because of privacy concerns, though he added that the company killed thousands of fish as a pre-emptive measure and is under quarantine.

He said the virus is not a human-health or food risk, but the agency's website says it can kill up to 90 per cent of infected fish, depending on its strain.

Todd Dupuis, an executive director with the Atlantic Salmon Federation, said he was not surprised when he heard about the suspected outbreak because the virus has been in Canada before.

He said his group's main concern is the potential fallout on wild salmon stocks. "The stocks are very depressed already in that region in the Bay of Fundy and southern coast of Nova Scotia," he said. "They've got to make sure it doesn't get passed to what's left of the wild stocks."

Kiley said tests would be conducted at a federal lab in Moncton, N.B., to confirm whether the virus is present. Results are expected in a few weeks.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Winter. Triathlon



► Skaters glide around the Emera Oval as they compete in the Tri-the-Oval winter triathlon on Sunday morning. Participants skated for five kilometres, biked for six kilometres and then ran for 5.2 kilometres.

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

Blade runners take over the oval on Sunday

Another twist for 'Sisters'

► Council mulled discharging development deal in 2011

► Developer United Gulf wants to construct two 40-plus-storey buildings



ALEX BOULIER
@METRONEWS.CA

Halifax regional council should reject an application to build a 48-storey highrise on Granville Street, city staff say.

In a report going before council on Tuesday, staff advise rejecting United Gulf Development Ltd.'s request to amend height restrictions to accommodate the project, now known as "Skye Halifax," formerly the "Twisted Sisters."

The report gives three main reasons: The move would significantly affect the height policies of the Downtown Halifax Plan, it

would impede the view from the Citadel Hill ram parts and it would be inconsistent with council policy for substantially altering planning documents.

"Entertaining the application has the potential to create an atmosphere of general uncertainty about council's commitment to its planning documents," the report reads.

United Gulf has had a development deal for 1591 Granville St. since 2006. The original agreement was for two 27-storey mixed-use buildings, and required that construction begin by March 2010.

A year later, council considered discharging the

agreement. The developer responded with a new vision for the site — two 44-storey towers rising from a four-storey "shared podium."

"The height of the revised United Gulf's project would require significant amendments to HRM's planning documents," the report reads. Specifically, the planning documents allow for a maximum height of 66 metres. United Gulf's proposal is for buildings roughly 150 metres tall.

The report says allowing an exception for the developer would call "the entire approach to building heights in the downtown into question."



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO FILE

"People are frustrated, saying, 'C'mon, let's get going on getting things going,' when it comes to development. But when something is built, it lasts more than 50 years."

DOWNTOWN COUN. DAWN SLOANE

Man arrested for string of armed robberies

A man is facing more than 90 charges in a series of armed robberies at Halifax businesses.

Officers arrested Kenneth Sykes on Saturday, hours after a Canada-wide warrant was issued for his arrest. Police say Sykes, 39, evaded police for three weeks after he was charged following a store robbery

late last month. They allege Sykes robbed seven other businesses at gunpoint since November, including the TD Bank on Quinpool Road on Thursday night. Among the charges he faces are robbery, uttering threats, wearing a disguise with intent and carrying a concealed weapon.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

Senior dead in snowmobile crash

FOLLY LAKE. A 70-year-old Truro Heights man died Friday when his snowmobile veered off a groomed trail in the Folly Lake area and crashed in the woods. Police are investigating. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Four arrested for break-ins

INTRUSIONS. Four people face charges in two break-and-enters that happened within an hour of each other on Saturday. The break-ins took place at a storage centre on Green Village Road in Dartmouth and at a vacant house on Bright Street in Halifax. Three men and a woman are charged. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

1

news


News Corp. has announced that *The Sun*, a new tabloid designed to replace the disgraced *News of the World*, will rise in a week. Scan code for story.

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'These are kids with huge issues'

► Studies show that children raised in foster care face higher risks of homelessness, criminal conviction

JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS



► Jessica Reid spends time with her six-year-old son Nathaniel in their Winnipeg apartment this past December. Reid went from foster care to drug addiction to having her son cared for by others before finding a happy ending.

Child-care advocates say a chronic crisis in the foster-care system is only worsening as more children enter the system with complex needs and fewer families volunteer to help.

Halifax youth justice lawyer Chandra Gosine has seen a steady rise in the number of kids in foster care coming through his door since he opened his practice in 1983.

Gosine's clients range in age from 12 to 17, and most have either been in foster care or a group home.

"More and more, there are people involved in criminal activity who are in those two levels of care."

He believes abuse, psychological baggage and multiple foster-care placements put many children on a road to trouble.

Gosine says the law is too often used as a blunt instrument for kids who need help, not a criminal record.

Const. Richard McDonald, a youth-court liaison officer in Halifax, sees hope in the growing use of restorative — rather than punitive — practices in

group homes.

"They're exploring the underlying issue of what caused the child to do what he or she did and then they're using restorative practices to try to deal with it," he said, adding that a combination of mental-health, education and community resources are part of the program.

"These are kids with huge issues," McDonald said.

Jessica Reid of Winnipeg went from foster care to drug addiction to having her son cared for by others before finding a happy ending that she traces back to one loving soul.

Her name was Joan and she was a respite worker who took Reid into her home in Gimli, Man., when she was a scared, lonesome 13-year-old.

"She actually cared," Reid, now 29, said from Winnipeg where she's raising her six-year-old boy, Nathaniel.

Reid says she's among the lucky ones who made it through a rough childhood with help from a foster family that had a lasting, loving influence.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Expert gives grim picture of foster-care system

Some children are placed in foster care without full safety checks while others wind up in supervised apartments or overcrowded homes, say child advocates who warn of a deepening crisis across the country.

"There are problems when you hear people from the front line talking about the fact that we're placing kids in homes where the study hasn't been done," said Peter Dudding, executive director of the Child Welfare League of Canada. "We've got kids being placed in homes where the home is over the allowable number of children."

"This is just wrong. And it's dangerous."

Dudding said repeated efforts to recruit more families have had limited success.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CAUSE INVESTIGATED

Man dies in Canning home fire

One man is dead and another is in critical condition following a late-night house fire in Canning, N.S.

Cpl. Greg Hicks of the Kings District RCMP said about 40 firefighters responded to the blaze around 11:30 p.m. on Saturday at a century-old

house that had been converted into two apartments.

Hicks said the fire started in the kitchen of the top-level apartment and two men were trapped inside.

Crews worked to retrieve the men and both were transferred to the Valley Regional Hospital, where a 44-year-old man died shortly after arriving.

Hicks said a 53-year-old man was airlifted to a Halifax hospital Sunday morning and remains in critical condition.

He said the deceased

was a resident of the apartment, while the other man was visiting.

The lower-floor tenant was able to escape the blaze safely and crews were able to contain the fire, Hicks said.

"They were able to contain the fire itself to the kitchen of the upstairs apartment; however, there is extensive smoke damage throughout the building," he said.

Officers are investigating the cause of the fire and police have not released any names.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

Four arrested in alleged break-ins

Police in Halifax arrested four people in connection with two alleged break-and-enters that happened within one hour of each other Saturday.

At about 10 p.m., officers were in the area of Green Village Road in Dartmouth and saw that a section of the security fence at a storage facility had been cut.

Officers found two men inside the facility, aged 18 and 20, who fled the area but were arrested a short time later. Police also arrested a 34-year-old woman who was waiting in a vehicle parked along Highway 111.

About an hour later, officers responded to a report of a man attempting to break into a vacant residence on Bright Street in Halifax. The 47-year-old man was arrested nearby without incident and charged with trespass at night and breach of probation.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Driver killed in highway crash

An elderly man is dead after his car veered off a Nova Scotia highway and crashed into a tree on Saturday.

RCMP in Enfield say the accident happened around 3 p.m. on Highway 102 between Elmsdale and Milford.

Police say the small, four-door vehicle was travelling northbound and veered off the road and collided with a tree.

The victim died at the scene. THE CANADIAN PRESS

French. Kiss



► Amanda Powell gets a kiss from Joey, an eight-year-old French bulldog, at the annual Doggie Expo at the Halifax Forum's Multipurpose Centre on Sunday afternoon.

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

From his lips to donors' wallets

Joey was charging two dollars a smooch to raise money and awareness for the French Bulldog Rescue Network. He gave out more than 100 kisses.

News in brief

Drills go ahead, despite threats from N. Korea

LIVE-FIRE. South Korea conducted live-fire military drills Monday from five islands near its disputed sea boundary with North Korea, despite Pyongyang's threat to attack. South Korea reported no immediate action by North Korea following the drills, which ended after about two hours. They took place in an area of the Yellow Sea that was the target of a North Korean artillery attack in 2010 that killed four South Koreans. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Dutch prince in stable condition

AVAILANCE. The Netherlands' royal information service says Prince Johan Friso remains in stable but life-threatening condition two days after he was buried by an avalanche in the Austrian Alps. The 43-year-old was rushed to the intensive care unit of Innsbruck's main hospital Friday after he was rescued from the snow. He had been skiing off marked trails. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Emperor receives heart bypass

SURGERY. Japan's 78-year-old Emperor Akihito underwent successful heart bypass surgery Saturday and should begin rehabilitation in a few days, doctors and palace officials said. Akihito was being monitored in intensive care at the University of Tokyo Hospital. He was scheduled for the surgery after tests showed his heart condition had worsened from a year ago. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Opposition forces gain footing in Syria

► Regime continues attacks on protesters, calling the forces 'terrorists' ► 14 people killed in Syria on Sunday



► Syrians chant anti-Bashar Assad slogans during a protest in front of the Syrian Embassy in Amman, Jordan, on Friday.

Gunmen in Syria staged a guerrilla-style ambush that killed a senior state prosecutor and a judge Sunday in an attack that suggested armed factions are growing bolder and more co-ordinated in their uprising against President Bashar Assad's regime.

The roadway slayings — reported in an opposition-dominated northern region by the Syrian state news agency — came a day after a deadly hit-and-run attack on a political figure in the heart of the pro-Assad city of Aleppo.

The targeted killings have not reached Assad's inner circle, but they indicate a growing shift toward violent tactics by the opposition as it brings aboard

Death toll?

- UN says 5,400 people had been killed in 2011 alone.
- Local co-ordination committees say more than 7,300 have been killed.
- Numbers can't be verified since most foreign journalists and human-rights organizations are banned.

more military defectors and seeks to tighten control over the small pieces of territory in its hands.

The fears of a looming civil war have neighbouring Jordan racing to finish a refugee camp near the Syrian border to handle a possible exodus of people fleeing for safety. Egypt became the latest Arab nation to publicly snub Assad by ordering the withdrawal of its ambassador in Damascus.

The Syrian government proposed a referendum next week that could allow more political voices to challenge Assad's Baath Party. But the opposition demands nothing short of Assad's resignation.

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Baird cut pro-Palestinian remarks from UN address

Documents show Foreign Affairs minister rejected drafts that presented Canada as a 'leading supporter' of the Palestinian people

A Canadian expression of goodwill toward the Palestinian people was left on the cutting-room floor when Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird addressed the United Nations General Assembly last fall.

Baird rejected early departmental drafts of his maiden address to the UN that said Canada is a "leading supporter" of the Palestinian people and outlined major spending that backed that assertion, The Canadian Press has learned.

Baird ended up delivering a much tougher address than envisioned by his speech writers, one that unequivocally emphasized Canada's support for Israel — a position for which he makes no apologies and which has generated much criticism of Stephen Harper's Conservatives.

Copies of the draft texts of the speech, obtained under the Access to Information Act, show Baird used a radically reworked text when he represented Canada for the first time at the

General Assembly on Sept. 26, 2011.

In his address, Baird drew a parallel with pre-Second World War appeasers of Nazi Germany, saying: "Canada will not accept or stay silent while the Jewish state is attacked for defending its territory and its citizens. The Second World War taught us all the tragic price of 'going along' just to 'get along.'"

The only direct reference to the Palestinian people in Baird's address was to emphasize Canada's opposition to the Palestinian Authority's stated plan to seek recognition of statehood at the assembly.

The Palestinian statehood issue dominated last fall's session of the assembly, and Canada's opposition — mirroring that of many countries, including the United States — was well known at the time.

Indeed, the first draft of Baird's speech noted that "Canada has been very clear that it does not support the recognition of Palestinian state."

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Foreign Affairs Minister John Baird addresses the 66th UN General Assembly at UN Headquarters in New York last September.

Canada's policy

Three days before Baird's address, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas formally announced his intent to pursue the Palestinian statehood bid in his own general assembly speech.

Two days before Abbas's speech, Prime Minister Stephen Harper held a face-to-face meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Ben-

jamin Netanyahu at the UN. The two leaders expressed their mutual admiration and friendship. Last month, Baird travelled to Israel, accompanied by an orthodox Jewish rabbi from his Ottawa riding, and repeatedly told his hosts that Israel has no greater friend than Canada.

Baird's office declined to comment on the UN speech writing process.

Anonymous threatens Toews over controversial Bill C-30



JOE LOFARO
@METRONEWS.CA
METRO CANADA IN OTTAWA

Hacker group Anonymous is demanding Canada's Public Safety Minister Vic Toews put an end to proposed Internet-surveillance legislation, Bill C-30, and resign, or they say they will release information during "Operation White North."

In a video uploaded Thursday, the group speaks out against Bill C-30, which critics say would give police too much snooping power and violate Canadians' privacy.

If passed, the bill would

allow authorities to demand Internet-service providers hand over subscriber information such as name, email address and Internet Protocol (IP) address without a warrant.

The video features an image of a masked man and a computerized voice-over that talks about the Protecting Children from Internet Predators Act.

"All this legislation does is give your corrupted government more power to control its citizens," the voice said.

"We know all about you, Mr. Toews, and during Operation White North we will release what we have

unless you scrap this bill."

Another person who appears to be unaffiliated with Anonymous already published alleged details of the minister's divorce on a Twitter account (@Vikileaks30).

Toews called for an investigation into the matter after the Ottawa Citizen reported that the posts were coming from an IP address linked to the House of Commons.

A series of farewell postings by Wikileaks suggested the poster was not from Ottawa and that many people have access to the email address in question.

"You are showing the

government that the people have the real power. Farewell," one of the final posts said.

The account appeared to be shut down on Friday.

Following the Twitter posts, the Winnipeg Free Press obtained an open letter Toews wrote to his constituents which said he has been the victim of "extensive personal" attacks by his political opponents.

Toews said Bill C-30 will bypass the second reading and head to committee, where potential amendments to the piece of legislation could be made.

WITH FILES FROM
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Elizabeth Smart marries in Hawaii

Elizabeth Smart, the young woman from Utah who was kidnapped at knifepoint at 14 and held captive for nine months by an itinerant street preacher, married her Scottish fiancé Saturday at a Mormon temple in Hawaii.

A family spokesman said she married Matthew Gilmour, of Aberdeen, Scotland, on Oahu's North Shore.

The 24-year-old Smart is

in her last year at Brigham Young University. She met Gilmour while doing Mormon missionary work in Paris.

The couple wed at the Laie Hawaii Temple of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in front of a small group of family members, spokesman Chris Thomas said in a statement. The group then celebrated at a private reception and luau.

Smart and Gilmour got engaged last month and made plans to wed this summer. However, Smart opted to move up the ceremony because of the media attention her engagement was getting, Thomas said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pope elevates 22 cardinals

Looking weary during a third straight day of speeches and ceremony, Pope Benedict led 22 new cardinals in a Sunday mass and prayed for help so that he and his aides can continue to carry out the Catholic church's worldwide mission.

Many of the men who sat before the Pope in front of the Baroque central altar of St. Peter's Basilica, dressed in white robes and wearing their new red birettas, will vote in secret conclave for Benedict's successor

after his death.

Toronto Archbishop Thomas Collins, 65, was among those elevated to the College of Cardinals on Saturday.

Benedict, who turns 85 in April, read a long homily in a hoarse voice and looked tired on the third straight day of speeches, rituals and appearances for the new cardinals. Benedict told the new cardinals their main task is to "bear witness to the joy of Christ's love."

The Vatican has been embarrassed by months of intrigue involving alleged corruption and apparent in-house jockeying for power within the hierarchy with a view to the next papacy.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Australia reopens dingo-baby probe

The growl came first, low and throaty, piercing the darkness that had fallen across the remote Australian desert. A baby's cry followed, then abruptly went silent.

Inside the tent, the infant girl had vanished. Outside, her mother was screaming: "The dingo's got my baby!"

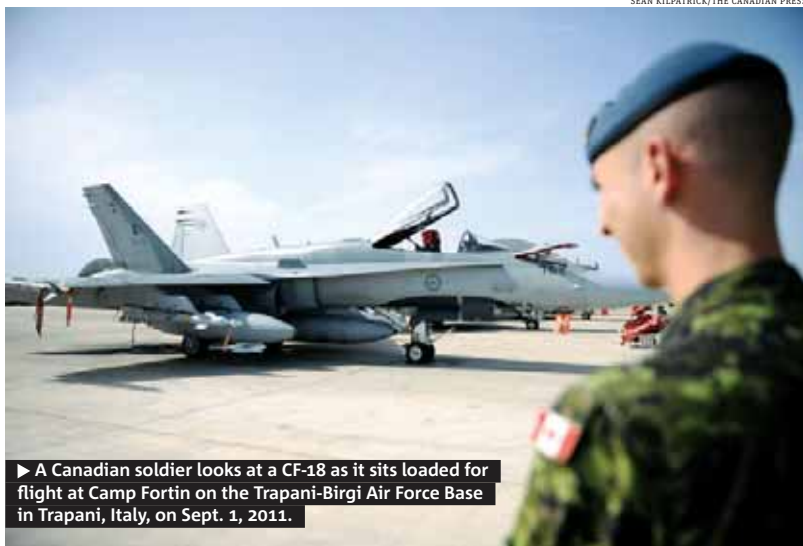
With those panicked words, the mystery of Azaria Chamberlain's disappearance in the Australian Outback in 1980

became the most notorious, divisive and baffling legal drama in the country's history. Had a wild dog really taken the baby? Or had Azaria's mother, Lindy, slit her daughter's throat and buried her in the desert?

Thirty-two years later, Australian officials hope to finally, definitively, determine how Azaria died when the Northern Territory coroner opens a fourth inquest Friday.

Lindy Chamberlain, who was convicted of murdering her daughter and later cleared, is still waiting for authorities to get to the bottom of the case that made her the most hated person in Australia.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Tight timeline to replace jets

► Current CF-18s were bought between 1984 and 1989

There's little wiggle room to prolong the life of Canada's CF-18 jet fighters beyond 2020 and they may have to be flown gently if there are further delays in the F-35 program.

A Defence Department chart that tracks maintenance on all 77 aircraft shows the CF-18s had used up about 73 per cent of their airframe life prior to last year's Libya bombing campaign.

National Defence has acknowledged there is no backup plan if the multi-national F-35 stealth fighter program encounters more problems or postponements.

7,000^{On} average, each aircraft is expected to end its service life with just over 7,000 hours in the air. Most CF-18s had already surpassed an average 5,151 hours by late 2010.

The retirement date for all but three of the CF-18s is set at 2020, according to the spreadsheet tabled in Parliament last year in response to written questions by opposition parties.

The aging fighters have gone through a decade-long \$1.8-billion upgrade to their weapons systems and

sensors, and senior defence officials say they'll "easily be effective" for another eight years.

The first of the problem-plagued F-35s is supposed to be delivered in 2016, with the bulk of the planned 65 aircraft arriving in 2020.

The current Defence Department plan in Ottawa sees the first F-35s enter service in the 2018 time frame, at which point the oldest of the current fighters would be retired. But development setbacks and delayed orders from other allied nations have cast doubt on that.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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We're not ready for Arctic boom: Top sailor

► Head of navy says Canada needs to boost presence in region ► Climate change will threaten sovereignty

The head of the Royal Canadian Navy says Canada needs to bolster its military presence in the Arctic to prepare for a boom in human and economic activity resulting largely from climate change.

Global warming is thought to be occurring faster in the North than anywhere else. The gradual disappearance of sea ice is opening up commercial shipping as well as previously inaccessible areas rich with oil, natural gas and mineral resources.

"From a naval perspective, climate change probably means there will be more open water, so the Arctic Ocean will really emerge as the Arctic Ocean," Vice-Admiral Paul Maddison, Commander of

By the numbers

- The number of navy personnel shrunk to about 8,500 during the Canadian mission to Afghanistan, Maddison said, so recruitment has been a major focus
- There are now 9,500 regular-force sailors and 3,500 in the reserves.
- As part of the government's national shipbuilding strategy, new icebreakers and Arctic off-shore patrol ships are on order. Maddison said the first patrol ship is expected in 2015.

the Royal Canadian Navy, said in a recent interview. "It also means ... that the circumpolar route will probably open to interna-

tional shipping from Asia to Europe sometime in this century — probably a lot earlier than most people predicted a few years ago," he said.

"I know that major shipping companies are planning now to be able to have ships that are first-year ice capable sailing out of Singapore and over the pole into Rotterdam.

"That's a game changer in my view ... a shorter distance, so less time, less money."

Prime Minister Stephen Harper has been vocal about asserting Canada's sovereignty in the region.

Maddison would like to see more resources put into improving the navy's surveillance abilities in the North.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

► Vice-Admiral Paul Maddison addresses a news conference at National Defence headquarters in Ottawa in 2010.



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Top 5: February 17th

- 5 Flo Rida ft Sia Wild Ones
- 4 Pitbull ft Chris Brown International Love
- 3 Marianas Trench Fallout
- 2 Drake ft Rihanna Take Care
- 1 David Guetta ft Nicki Minaj Turn Me On

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Tessa counts down the **HOTTEST 5** songs that day!

101.3THEBOUNCE.COM



► In this Jan. 23 file image taken from video, students try free samples of AeroShot, an inhalable caffeine packed in a lipstick-sized canister, on the campus of Northeastern University in Boston.

Iran retaliates by halting oil shipments

Iran has halted oil shipments to Britain and France, the Oil Ministry said Sunday, in an apparent blow against the European Union after the bloc imposed sanctions on Iran's crucial fuel exports.

The EU imposed tough sanctions against Iran last month, which included a freeze of the country's central-bank assets and an oil embargo set to begin in July. Iran's Oil Minister Rostam Qassemi had warned earlier this month that Tehran could cut off oil exports to "hostile" European nations. The 27-nation EU accounts for about 18 per

cent of Iran's oil exports.

The EU sanctions, along with other punitive measures imposed by the U.S., are part of Western efforts to derail Iran's disputed nuclear program, which the West fears is aimed at developing atomic weapons. Iran denies the charges.

"We have our own customers and have no problem to sell and export our crude oil to new customers," said the Oil Ministry's Ali Reza Nikzad-Rahbar.

Britain's Foreign Office declined comment and there was no response from France. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



► In this Sept. 27, 2000, file photo, an Iranian oil worker works at an oil refinery in Tehran.

Greek PM scrambles for bailout

Greek Prime Minister Lucas Papademos rushed to Brussels on Sunday, a day before eurozone finance ministers have to decide whether his country will get a 130-billion-euro bailout and avoid a potentially devastating default.

Leaders from Germany, Italy and Greece have said they are optimistic that the deal on a second bailout for Athens can be clinched after months of delay, but critics doubt the

Greek political leaders' commitment to austerity and there are difficult details to be ironed out. Greece is straining to secure the rescue loans and the debt-relief deal quickly to avoid defaulting on a 14.5-billion-euro bond redemption on March 20.

The government has already pushed a massive austerity and reform package through parliament and is expected to introduce in parliament on Monday two

FDA to scrutinize caffeine inhaler

- Agency to test if product is safe and can be deemed dietary supplement
- Company says safe amount of caffeine and B vitamins is inhaled

U.S. Food and Drug Administration officials plan to investigate whether inhalable caffeine sold in lipstick-sized canisters is safe for consumers and if its manufacturer was right to brand

it as a dietary supplement. AeroShot went on the market late last month in Massachusetts and New York, and it's also available in France. Consumers put one end of the canister in

their mouths and breathe in, releasing a fine powder that dissolves quickly. Each grey-and-yellow plastic canister contains B vitamins, plus 100 milligrams of caffeine powder, about the equivalent of the caffeine in a large cup of coffee.

AeroShot inventor, Harvard biomedical engineering Prof. David Edwards, says the product is safe and doesn't contain taurine and other common additives used to enhance the caffeine effect in energy drinks.

AeroShot didn't require FDA review before hitting the U.S. market because it's sold as a dietary supplement. But New York's U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer said he met with FDA commissioner Dr. Margaret Hamburg and she agreed to review the safety and legality of AeroShot.

"I am worried about how a product like this impacts kids and teens, who are particularly vulnerable to overusing a product that allows one to take hit after hit after hit, in rapid succession," Schumer said.

Tom Hadfield, chief executive of Breathable Foods, which makes AeroShot in France, said in a statement that the company will cooperate fully with the FDA's review to address the issues raised by Schumer and are confident it will conclude that AeroShot is a safe, effective product that complies with FDA regulations.

The company said that, when used according to its label, AeroShot provides a safe amount of caffeine and B vitamins. AeroShot is not recommended for those under 18 and is not marketed to children.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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China bank to lower ratio to free up funds

China's central bank will lower the ratio of funds that banks must hold as reserves in a move that frees tens of billions of dollars for lending and aims to help spur slowing economic growth.





The reserve requirement ratio for major commercial banks will be decreased Friday to 20.5 per cent from 21 per cent, the People's Bank of China said Saturday.

The cut frees money for

lending at a time when the growth rate is expected to drop from last quarter's 8.9 per cent to closer to eight per cent. The cut is the second in two months. The bank had pushed the rate to a record 21.5 per cent in June after consumer prices rose by a three-year high of 5.5 per cent the previous month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market moment

TSX	Dollar	Oil	Natural gas
			
- 27.29 (\$12,458.30)	+ 0.08¢ (\$100.43¢ US)	+ 93¢ US (\$103.24 US)	\$2.68 US (+ 12¢ US)
			Gold \$1,725 US (- \$3.40 US)

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URBAN COMPASS

STEPHEN KIMBER
METRO HALIFAX



With 760 bus drivers walking picket lines, 870 professors voting to strike and 3,800 health-care workers heading for conciliation, it's no surprise news that 36 provincial court judges have a new three-year deal with the province passed almost entirely unnoticed.

Judges don't actually negotiate their salaries. That would be unseemly. An association speaks for them — sort of a union, but with a gentler sounding name and less formal power. Who needs formal power when you're speaking for judges?

Judges can't strike. A three-member tribunal hears submissions from their association, the government and anyone else who cares to comment. The tribunal considers those arguments and then decides. Binding arbitration, if you will, but without the baggage.

"I would note that three per cent of a judge's salary adds up to close to \$7,000 more a year, while one per cent of the average Nova Scotian's salary of \$39,500 totals less than \$400 a year."

The ostensible reason for all this non-negotiating negotiating is to "maintain the independence of the judiciary," so they can't be "corrupted by the temptation to curry favour among certain litigants in order to gain financial advantage."

Judges, of course, have mortgages, families, needs and wants. Not to mention jealousies that judges in other jurisdictions get more than they do. Their issues aren't that different from us lesser mortals:

salaries, pensions, perks.

So how did the judges do?

Not bad. During the past 10 years, in fact, provincial court judges' salaries in Nova Scotia increased from \$144,000 to \$207,577.

And, while the province is committed to holding the line at one per cent for other public servants, the tribunal decided judges needed three per cent. New salary: \$214,000.

Pensions? The tribunal decided the public-service pension plan, which caps indexing for everyone else at 1.25 per cent, isn't sweet enough. Judges' pensions — paid out of the same pot — will be indexed at 75 per cent of the consumer price index to a maximum of five per cent.

I'm not quibbling with the specifics.

But I would note that three per cent of a judge's salary adds up to close to \$7,000 more a year, while one per cent of the average Nova Scotian's salary of \$39,500 totals less than \$400 a year.

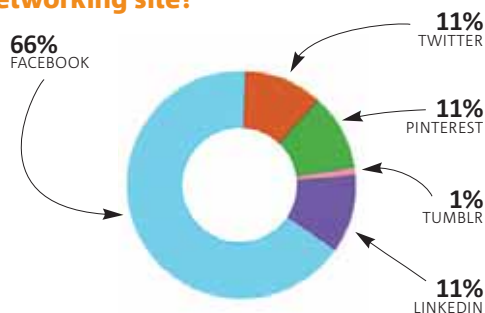
The gap between those who have and those who don't grows.

Still. Again.



Register at
metropolitanpanel.ca
and take the quick poll

What is your favourite social-media networking site?



Local tweets



- @fedafilms: Yay! Beer in Halifax is safe. Oland workers accept deal to avert lockout
- @natasha xo's: @Natasha0714 It would be amazing if @DJPaulyD ! Would retweet! It would make my life! Can't wait to see him april 15th in halifax#yeahbuddy
- @haliguypblems: Half of Halifax is going some where warm.
- @miggitymel: "I love you."

Even if you are American." is what the dude panhandling outside of shoppers on SG just said to me. #Halifax

- @WUMLN: Sitting in the #Halifax airport getting ready to head to Alberta for the week. And more importantly #Banff !!!
- @CaptainBowers: My family's going out for the day, praise the lord I can start my meth lab in the house now.
- @allistercanada: What a nice day its turning out to be in #Halifax Currently sitting at -3 with a few stray clouds! #hurryspring

Daily Zoom

Screaming wall



Putting a smile on buildings

NIZHNY NOVGOROD, RUSSIA.

If walls could talk, they might look something like this. In the Russian city of Nizhny Novgorod, street artist Nikita Nomerz gives dilapidated urban spaces a bit more personality by painting whimsical faces that express everything from happiness and anger to anxiety and deep thought. ● MWN

1

It takes Nomerz one hour to complete one of his "wall faces." In an interview at a recent Russian graffiti festival, Nomerz identified his home country's own particular style of street art: "Being able to draw outside in -25 degrees, now that's our style!"

They're like 'actual people'

OPINION. Through his art, Nomerz hopes people can cherish their surroundings. "It'd be nice if people began paying more attention to what's around them," he says. He treats his wall faces as if they were real people: "I do not want to offend any of them, speaking about just one. Because these walls are alive." ● MWN

The legacy of Whitney

► As the singer is laid to rest, experts ponder her legacy and what it means for her music

HEIDI PATALANO
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN NEW YORK

As Whitney Houston's funeral took place this past Saturday, the tragedy of her death is still fresh in our minds. However, Houston, like Michael Jackson, may have a legacy that can outlive our collective memory of her somewhat tainted past.

But that doesn't happen on its own. There are professionals who specialize in the act of "sanitizing" the image of a deceased celebrity. "The estates of dead celebrities these days are so savvy and there's a handful of people that manage it in Hollywood," explains Jo Piazza, author of *Celebrity Inc. How Famous People Make Money*. "Whitney's estate will likely sign on with one of them because they know what to do to kind of sanitize a celebrity who has died in an unsavory way. They're also bulldogs to make sure that the image is not used in a way that is one, not profitable for them and two, will continue to damage the brand in perpetuity."

Piazza notes that Michael Jackson's estate used the same experts that had worked on Elvis Presley's estate after he died. Many may forget that Presley also died young and, on the toilet. But Jackson and Presley at the top two dead celebrity earners. Why? Because they present branding that allows new generations to become fans and then, consumers.

"Michael Jackson's estate benefited from the fact that Conrad Murray was convicted," she says. "That kind of clears his name and de-stigmatizes him going forward. The way Whitney Houston died, that's not a family-friendly way to die. And if you die in an un-family friendly way, similar to Amy Winehouse, it's hard for parents to encourage that next generation of consumers to sign on to this brand."

Michael Jackson and



► Will Whitney Houston become a top deceased celebrity earner like Michael Jackson and Elvis Presley?

Elvis Presley's respective Cirque du Soleil shows, in addition to Presley's Graceland, not only generate big money for their estates, but indoctrinate new generations as fans of their music.

But can Houston manage to overcome the same sort of branding crisis? Piazza doesn't think so. "I don't think that her brand was as strong as Jackson and Presley's," she says. "I don't think that she had a strong enough catalogue in one genre to be able to do anything in perpetuity."

Piazza also notes that because Houston did not write her songs, she also stands to make less money from her catalogue going forward.

Dorothy Pomerantz is an entertainment journalist for *Forbes Magazine* and compiles the annual list of top-earning dead celebrities. She takes a more hopeful perspective on the future of Houston's legacy.

"Yes, the way Whitney

\$10M
The amount Houston's estate may earn in the next 12 months according to estimates by *Forbes Magazine*.

Houston died was incredibly sad, but what's going to matter is how her heirs and her estate managers handle her name going forward," Pomerantz says. "There's no reason that something similar [to the success of Presley and Jackson] couldn't happen with Whitney Houston after her estate and her name have had room to separate from the way she died. Five years from now, will Whitney be remembered for her grace and for her songs? Or will she be remembered for dying from whatever comes out in the autopsy? It takes PR and smart planning and smart work. There's potential there."

On casting a Houston biopic

We asked movie critic for *Fandango.com* Grae Drake to speculate as to who could play the key roles in a Whitney Houston biopic if one were to be made today. But Drake warned us first, that the public will need distance from her death in order to appreciate a fictionalized retelling of her life. "Biopics usually do better when people have had time to forget what it was like to live through it in the news," she says.

► METRO

The cast

Who would play Whitney Houston and Bobbi Brown?

► **Whitney Houston:** "Jennifer Hudson is who everyone is bringing up for this," says Drake.



► Jennifer Hudson

► **Bobbi Brown:** "The thing about Don Cheadle is that he can really bring something deep to a figure whom I think is largely unsympathetic. Getting the right performer in there could really turn the tide of public opinion," says Drake.

2
scene

Box office



The weekend box office is too close to call as the action tale *Safe House* and the love story *The Vow* compete for the No. 1 spot. Based on Sunday's studio estimates, Denzel Washington's *Safe House* had a slim lead with \$24 million from Friday to Sunday. That's a fraction ahead of Rachel McAdams and Channing Tatum's *The Vow* with \$23.6 million. The winner won't be known for certain until Tuesday, when studios will report final numbers for the long holiday weekend. The top-five was bunched up tightly. Nicolas Cage's sequel *Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance* opened at No. 3 with \$22 million. *Journey 2: The Mysterious Island* was No. 4 with \$20.1 million. Reese Witherspoon's love-triangle comedy *This Means War* debuted at No. 5 with \$17.6 million. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Aretha Franklin remembers Whitney Houston in show at Radio City Music Hall in NYC

Is there a sex tape of Adele?

► French magazine publishes photos that claim to show singer having sex

In a sure sign that she's officially famous, Adele is suing French magazine Public for publishing fake photographs claimed to be from a sex tape featuring the Grammy winner, according to the Daily Mail.

"We are informed that the French magazine Public has today published images which it claims show our client in a sex tape," Adele's lawyers said in a statement.

"Our client has not appeared in a sex tape as claimed in the article. Our

"Our client has not appeared in a sex tape as claimed in the article. Our client does not appear in the photographs."

ADELE'S LAWYERS

client does not appear in the photographs. Such claims are untrue and grossly defamatory. Our client is taking legal action in relation to this matter." ● METRO



► Adele

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

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First comes puppy, then comes baby?

Jennifer Aniston and Justin Theroux have expanded their family, Theroux admits — by adopting a puppy.

"She's the most adorable little cookie you've ever seen," Theroux tells New York magazine. "She looks like she just smoked an exploding cigar."

The dog, named Sophie, is a 3-month-old boxer-pit-bull mix, the actor and screenwriter says. ● METRO



► Jennifer Aniston and Justin Theroux

'I'm tired of lying': Sheen

After months of playing nice and polite, Charlie Sheen is lashing out at former employer Two and a Half Men and the show's new star, Ashton Kutcher. "I'm tired of lying. I'm tired of pretending the show doesn't suck. I'm tired of pretending Ashton doesn't suck," Sheen says in a new rant to TMZ.

"It's nothing personal. I just feel bad for him. He's saddled with such bad writing." So what spurred the tirade?

Apparently Sheen used an image from Two and a

Half Men to promote his new show, Anger Management, which triggered a cease and desist order from his old bosses. ● METRO



► Charlie Sheen

Celebrity tweets



Overheard at playground from one mom to another: "I've been to sooo many strip clubs."



@JohnTheCho



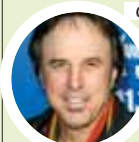
@EvaLongoria

How is it 2012 and we're fighting over birth control?



@SarahKSilverman

If you feel like everyone is judging you, congratulations! You're an alcoholic



@kevin_nealon

Seeing '5 re-fills' on my bottle of Valium is like seeing my car's gas gauge pointing to full.

Janet may soon be a judge on the X factor

Speculation is running rampant that Fox will announce Janet Jackson as a new judge for the X Factor, according to Us Weekly.

"She wants a spot on the judging panel," a source says of the singer.

And an exchange she shares with Anderson Cooper when he mentioned the reality show during a recent interview doesn't help.

"Oh my God," she said, bursting into a fit of giggles and covering her face. "No, I am not a judge on the X Factor."

When Anderson corrected her with, "You're not currently a judge on the X



► Janet Jackson

Factor," Jackson stealthily replied, "No, I am not. But that's all I really think I should say." ● METRO

32 ways to make someone happy

Some are clever, some are obvious — and you could be doing all of them for friends, family and even co-workers

1 Smile. Try it this morning on the subway.

2 Help carry something home from the grocery store

3 Send a thank-you email. Even if it's just thanking a friend for being alive.

4 Call just to see how they're doing.



5 Yes, even your mom. Especially your mom.

6 Pick them flowers.

7 Cook them a nice meal.

8 Try a fish dish — the Omega-3s will brighten



9 Tell a joke.

10 Try this one from Chris Rock: "People are starving all over the world, what do you mean, 'Red meat will kill you'? Don't eat no red meat? No, don't eat no green meat. If you lucky enough to get your hands on a steak, bite the crap out of it!"

their mood.

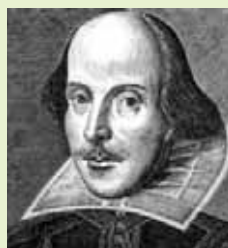
11 Or if you're really lazy, peel and slice an orange — no one loves doing that, you get all sticky for them.

12 Surprise them with a clean house.

13 Give them a cherished book.

14 Write a love letter to a loved one.

15 Extra points for not quoting another author.



16 Bake cookies.

17 Praise them publicly.

18 Just not on Facebook, if they're not into that. Keep it amongst friends.



19 Thank a co-worker for a job well done.

20 Listen.

21 Be there when they're in need.

22 Give someone an unexpected hug.

23 Spend time with them.

24 Get into a TV series together. We recommend Community or Breaking Bad on DVD.

25 Do errands or chores for them.

26 Say I love you. Again, only to someone who might want you to.

27 Be proud of them.

28 Babysit if they need it.

29 House sit if they need you to.

30 Create a care package.

31 Include chocolate.



32 Love them, completely. • LEO BABAUTA/ZEN-HABITS.NET/ METRO PANEL

3

life

Young vamps



Vampires have come to Dundurn, Sask.

The town is the setting for the new movie Rufus, a coming-of-age teen vampire drama.

It stars Canadian actress Kelly Rowland, best known from the hit TV show The O.C.; Saskatchewan native and British newcomer Rory Saper as Rufus, a lonely teen fanger who longs to be human.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Dad guns down daughter's laptop after Facebook rant

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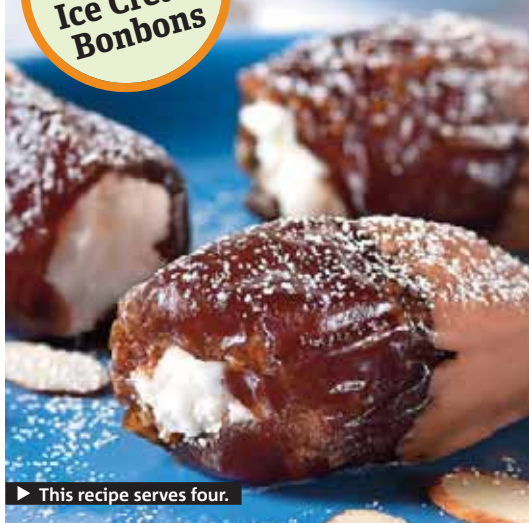




► Medjool Date Ice Cream Bonbons are sweets you can make with the kids

NATURAL DELIGHTS MEDJOOL DATES

Medjool Date Ice Cream Bonbons



► This recipe serves four.

Preparation:

- 1 Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper. Toast almonds in a small frying pan over medium heat for about 2 minutes or until fragrant and golden. Let cool completely.
- 2 Working in small batches to keep ice cream frozen, stuff a few almond slices into each Medjool date and then fill with about 1 ½ tsp (7 mL) ice cream. Place stuffed dates on baking sheet. Place in freezer.
- 3 When Medjool dates are frozen, remove from freezer and dip in melted chocolate. Return to baking sheet and freeze.
- 4 Serve on a platter, garnished with remaining

almonds and dusted with icing sugar, if using. **NATURAL DELIGHTS MEDJOOL DATES/ THIS RECIPE WAS ADAPTED FOR METRO NEWS BY EMILY RICHARDS, A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR & TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDS-COOKS.CA.**

Ingredients:

- 3 tbsp (45 mL) sliced almonds, toasted
- 8 large Medjool Dates, pitted
- ¼ cup (50 mL) vanilla ice cream
- 3 oz (90 g) milk chocolate, melted
- Icing sugar (optional)

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Remaking the music industry

BOOK REVIEW

CRAIG LUND
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA



Fortune's Fool,
By Fred Goodman;
Simon & Schuster,
\$36.00,
286 pages.

Behind every billionaire lies a story.

Take the Bronfman family, who got their start in the business of liquor sales during prohibition.

Fast forward a few decades later, and you have a business led by Edgar Bronfman under the tutelage of Seagram and a stellar jewel of a head office, the Seagram Building on Park Avenue in New York.

Fred Goodman's book, which is actually a story about the music business and the purchase by Edgar



Bronfman Jr. of Warner Music Group, paints a salacious tale of a family of heirs gunning to outdo their predecessors

Ultimately they dismantle an empire with about as much sentimentality as they showed in the selling of the Seagram building in 1978 for a cool \$75 million.

"Everything at Seagram, no matter how singular or closely tied to the Bronf-

man family legend, was for sale at the right price," writes Goodman.

There is no arguing that the music business is not what it used to be.

The confusion comes when a billionaire takes a (seemingly) losing bet on an industry to the tune of a few billion dollars, divesting some solid Dupont stock to boot.

This book takes a close look at Edgar Bronfman Jr.'s efforts to remake the music industry as an Internet-friendly business, including controversial artist agreements that take revenue cuts from streams formally exclusive to the artists.

All arguments aside, the company's profits have improved (though slightly) and by and large it has a lead in digital sales for the industry.

CRAIG LUND, A DIRECTOR WITH THE STAFFING FIRM MARKETERS ON DEMAND, CAN BE REACHED AT CRAIG.LUND@MARKETERSON-DEMAND.COM

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4 sports

Quoted



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PERRY MARCHESE ON BEING NAMED HEAD COACH OF SAINT MARY'S FOOTBALL ON FRIDAY. HE WAS A QUARTERBACK WITH THE HUSKIES IN THE 1990S WHO HAS SINCE BEEN AN ASSISTANT COACH AT THE CFL AND CIS LEVELS.

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'Electrifying' crowd propels Nedohin

Egged on by a pro-Alberta crowd of almost 5,200 at Red Deer's Enmax Centrium, Heather Nedohin skipped her Alberta rink to an 8-6 win over Jennifer Jones of Manitoba at the Scotties tournament of Hearts on Sunday.

"I think you'd be lying if you were a Flame or an Oiler saying you don't get your game up when you're in your own rink, right?" Nedohin said after defeating the four-time Canadian champion Jones. "We're Team Alberta. The crowd is fun. It's electrifying."

Alberta scored three in the third end and a big two in the eighth to be the first team to beat Jones, one of

► Blisse Comstock, left, and Terri Lake sweep Nova Scotia skip Heather Smith-Dacey's shot on Sunday in Red Deer, Alta.



JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

the tournament favourites.

The win bumped host Alberta to 1-1 ahead of a night game against defending champion Amber Holland. Holland, Ontario's Tracy Horgan and B.C.'s Kelly Scott were 2-0.

Jones fell to 2-1 alongside Saskatchewan's Michelle Englot and Kerry Galusha of Yukon and

Northwest Territories. New Brunswick's Rebecca Atkinson, P.E.I.'s Kim Dolan and Quebec's Marie-France Larouche were tied at 1-2 while Nova Scotia's

Winless start for Bluenosers

Nova Scotia's Heather Smith-Dacey has had a rocky start at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts.

Last year's bronze medallist is 0-3 in Red Deer, Alta., tied for last in the round-robin

standings. Smith-Dacey, who curled out of CFB Halifax this season, lost 10-5 to Yukon/Northwest Territories on Sunday morning and 10-3 to Ontario later in the day.

She also lost 7-5 to Saskatchewan on Saturday night.

Up next is Quebec on Monday afternoon and British Columbia in the evening. ● METRO

Heather Smith-Dacey and Heather Strong of Newfoundland and Labrador were tied for last with matching 0-3 starts.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dominant from start to finish

► Rainmen finally knock off NBL Canada's top squad ► Set franchise single-game defensive record ► Limit Lightning to just 24-of-65 from the field ► Back in action Monday night



MATTHEW WUEST
@METRONEWS.CA

The sixth time was the charm for the Halifax Rainmen.

After five failed attempts to bring down the powerful London Lightning, the Rainmen finally vanquished the first-place club on Sunday at the Metro Centre with a convincing 104-78 victory before a crowd of 4,562 at the Metro Centre.

It was a dominating display, tying for the third-largest margin of victory in the National Basketball League of Canada's brief history.

"That's huge — we proved we could actually beat them," said forward Lawrence Wright, amid a raucous on-court celebration after the game. "Going into playoffs, we know we're probably going to play them (again), so getting this win, it does something to them mentally that helps us."

The Rainmen allowed the opening basket 16 seconds in but proceeded to take the lead a minute later and didn't look back, storming out to a 20-4 lead.

London, which won the first five meetings by an average of 11.4 points, didn't

"In our minds we wanted to come out there with a clean slate, like (the season series) was 0-0, and we came in with that mentality, that they couldn't beat us, and we showed it out on the court."

RAINMEN GUARD LAWRENCE WRIGHT

come close to mounting a comeback, losing every quarter and trailing by as many as 33 in the second half.

They were assessed four technical fouls, with head coach Michael Ray Richardson taking two and earning an ejection with 2:12 left in the third quarter.

The normally outspoken Richardson gave a sarcastic wave to the officials as he left the floor but declined a request for a post-game interview.

"We had them frustrated," said Wright, who torched the Lightning for 27 points. "We just totally dominated from tip-off."

The defensive effort ranks as the best in the Rainmen's five-year history, bettering the '79 they allowed to the Saint John Mill



RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

► Rainmen forward Lawrence Wright shoots over Lightning forward Gabe Freeman during the first half of Halifax's 104-78 victory over London at the Metro Centre on Sunday.

Rats on March 31, 2011, in the Premier Basketball League.

"We came out wanting to play really hard on defence and we did that

throughout the whole game," Wright said. "That's why we won so convincingly. It was all about defence."

Taliek Brown knocked down 15 points, Tyrone Lev-

ett and Justin Johnson hit for 14 points apiece, and Joey Haywood added 10.

The Rainmen (18-11) visit Saint John on Monday at 7 p.m.

Sports in brief

Huskies, Tiger are in Final 6

AUS BASKETBALL. The Saint Mary's Huskies and Dalhousie Tigers both clinched playoff spots at the Final 6 Atlantic University Sport men's basketball championship with big wins on Saturday night.

The Huskies beat the UNB Varsity Reds 87-86 on the road and the Tigers upset the Cape Breton Capers 86-82 in overtime at home.

The two teams are tied for fifth with 24 points each.

The Final 6 runs March 2-4 at the Metro Centre.

● METRO

Huskies win volleyball title again

AUS VOLLEYBALL. The Saint Mary's Huskies beat the Dalhousie Tigers 3-1 (25-17, 26-28, 25-19, 25-22) on Sunday in Moncton to win their second Atlantic University Sport women's volleyball championship in the past three years. Ariel Smith and Kerri Smit had 17 kills apiece while combining for 29 digs and three aces. Saint Mary's heads to nationals March 2-4 in Hamilton, Ont. ● METRO

Herd keeps win streak alive

► Mooseheads heating up after January slump ► Now have a 5-1-1 record in past seven games



**MATTHEW
WUEST**
@METRONEWS.CA

The Halifax Mooseheads are making a habit of single-period scoring explosions, and Sunday was no exception. The difference was, they had to survive a taste of their own medicine to extend their winning streak to four games.

The Mooseheads followed up games with four- and five-goal third periods by ripping home six goals in the middle frame on Sunday in a 6-5 road win over the Bathurst Titan. But they almost blew what looked like an insurmountable 6-0 lead by allowing five goals in the final 20 minutes.

The Titan, who had a 17-2 edge in shots in the third, got within one with 65 seconds left but couldn't net the equalizer.

"It's always hard to explain how (offensive outbursts) like that happen," said Mooseheads head coach Dominique Ducharme. "Today in the third it happened on the other side. They got one, they got two, and they started getting better and faster and we started getting on our heels."

The Mooseheads outshot the Titan 16-5 in the second, with five of their six goals coming at even strength. Rookie winger Ryan Falkenham scored twice and Martin Frk, Alexandre Grenier,



► Mooseheads rookie winger Ryan Falkenham had two goals and an assist on Sunday and now has five points in his past three games.

Alexandre Cote and Cameron Critchlow netted singles, all in a span of 16:01.

Frk's marker at 12:42 snapped a streak of 15 failed power plays and made it 4-0.

All of this success came without leading scorer Nathan MacKinnon, who missed his second straight game with a broken

thumb. Veteran defenceman Sawyer Hannay also missed his sixth straight game with a concussion.

"Total control," Ducharme said of his team's second-period effort. "The way we were managing the puck, the way we were coming back into our zone, created a lot of odd-man rushes. We did a great job there and it

was a little bit like Bathurst in the third — everything was falling on our side."

The Mooseheads also beat the fifth-place Victoriaville Tigres 5-3 on Friday, coming back from a 3-0 deficit in the third period. With a 5-1-1 record in their past seven games, they're sixth in the QMJHL at 32-18-6 and visit

Prospects game

It's not official yet, but it appears the Canadian Hockey League's Top Prospects Game is on its way to Halifax next year.

- The Mooseheads, who feature three prospects getting attention for the 2013 NHL draft, will host the annual two-day extravaganza at the Metro Centre next year, a source told Metro. The CHL is expected to announce the event host in the near future.
- The Top Prospects Game is a showcase of NHL draft-eligible prospects. Mooseheads rookies Nathan MacKinnon, Zach Fucale and Jonathan Drouin will all be eligible to participate.
- CHL spokesman Paul Krotz told Metro last month there was no "specific timeline" for selecting a host site.

26

Goaltender Zach Fucale, 16, set the Mooseheads' franchise record for wins by a rookie with his 26th of the season on Sunday. Alexei Volkov set the mark of 25 as an 18-year-old in 1998-99.

the second-place Saint John Sea Dogs on Tuesday at 7 p.m.

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Raonic makes it two titles in San Jose

► 'I'm back and playing better tennis than ever before,' says top Canadian

Canada's Milos Raonic has served notice: He's healthy again and one of the most unstoppable forces in tennis is back.

Raonic captured a second straight SAP Open championship Sunday behind a powerful serve nobody in San Jose could solve, rolling past Denis Is-

tomin of Uzbekistan 7-6 (3), 6-2 in the finals.

Raonic ripped seven aces and lost only four points on his serve the entire match, turning the tournament into a serving exhibition.

The six-foot-five Thornhill, Ont., native has dropped only two service games in two years in San

Jose.

"This is really just for myself, I think, puts a lot of the injury thing behind me but also for a lot of other people," said Raonic, whose rapid rise was stalled last year following hip surgery.

After a slip on Wimbledon's grass last July slowed his surge, Raonic is rising

rapidly again. The 21-year-old, who also had to be replaced last week in Canada's loss to France in the Davis Cup because of a left-knee injury, began the tournament ranked 32nd and heads to Memphis next week as one of the favourites.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



► Milos Raonic

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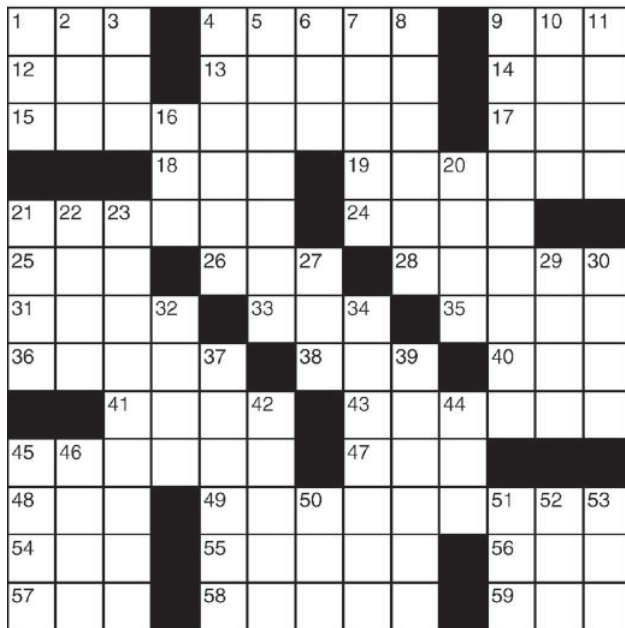
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Crossword

Across

- 1 Salary
4 Lying facedown
9 Wheel centre
12 "Born in the —"
13 Staffers
14 Yoko of music
15 Colorado mountain
17 Can metal
18 Definite article
19 Sloppy home
21 "Little — Annie"
24 Filth
25 Roman 7
26 Stitch
28 Propelled a row-boat
31 Catch sight of
33 Water barrier
35 Ancient Persian
36 Scatter anew
38 Not well-lit
40 How old you are
41 Witticism
43 Escaped, as liquid
45 Frothy dessert
47 Doctrine
48 Gorilla
49 1996 No Doubt hit
54 Meadow
55 Walking — (elated)
56 Beerlike beverage
57 Pen fluid
58 Chatty birds
59 Sunbather's goal
- Down**
1 Young pooch
2 "— was saying, ..."
3 Tibetan bovine
4 Turkish officials
5 Grew mature
6 Praise in verse

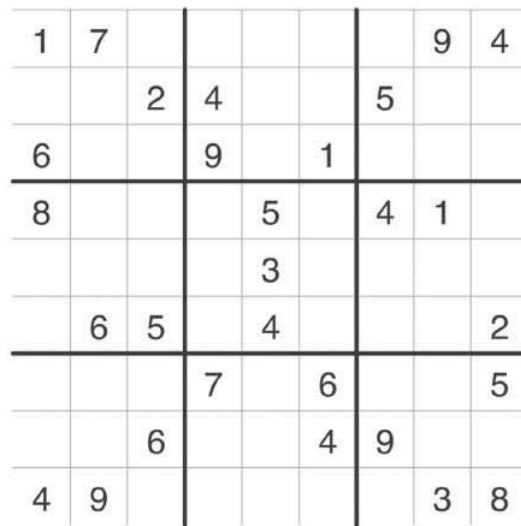


- 7 Some tides
8 Inuit
9 Long series of wins
10 One
11 Scrawny
16 Biblical verb ending
20 Agana's island
21 Finished
22 Get up
23 Weaking
27 Bankroll
29 Rim
30 Homeowner's document
32 Annie Lennox's "No More I Love —"
- 34 Armed citizenry
37 Insight
39 Plural of "Mr."
42 Indiana's state flower
44 Rock band's need, for short
45 West African nation
46 Unseal
50 A Bobsey twin
51 Dine
52 — carte
53 Barbie's companion

► Friday's answer



Sudoku



How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Friday's answer ►

7	2	4	1	3	9	5	6	8
9	5	1	4	8	6	3	7	2
3	6	8	2	5	7	1	9	4
2	8	5	6	9	4	7	3	1
1	9	3	8	7	2	6	4	5
4	7	6	5	1	3	8	2	9
8	3	2	9	6	5	4	1	7
5	4	7	3	2	1	9	8	6
6	1	9	7	4	8	2	5	3

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u
i love you more than anything in the world <3 love your babygirl <3 wannna work this stuff out love you

FROM ME

You are wrong
love may leave you outwardly, but they never leave you inwardly

FROM I CALLED YOU FIRST

Love you
When peoples imperfections are seen it is easy to think bad of them, alas, one thing does not make everything else untrue.

FROM IMPERFECT

Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20

Try to do things today with someone you don't usually get along with.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21

You may think you can complete certain tasks in record time but why would you want to when you can spread the work around?

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21

You have been working hard of late and deserve a break.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22

Think about changes you would like to make in your domestic situation. And once you have decided what they are act quickly and decisively.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug. 23

Anyone who does not take what you are trying to do seriously today can expect to feel the full force of your Leo displeasure.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24-Sept. 22

Don't take what you hear too seriously today because most likely you are hearing only half the story — and the other half makes it clear there is nothing to get worked up about.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23

Give yourself plenty of time to finish whatever plan or project you are currently working on.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22

The most important thing today is

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

that you take pleasure in what you are doing.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21

You will want to be on your own today and if that annoys certain people, well, it's just too bad.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20

Don't complain, don't explain and don't make excuses.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18

You may have to fight to get yourself noticed today but the effort will be worth it.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20

Face up to what troubles you today and before you know it your fears will no longer be of any relevance. **SALLY BROMPTON**

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IMAGINE HALIFAX



INSIDE: ▶ A special 32-page feature looking at how the Irving Shipyard contract will impact the HRM



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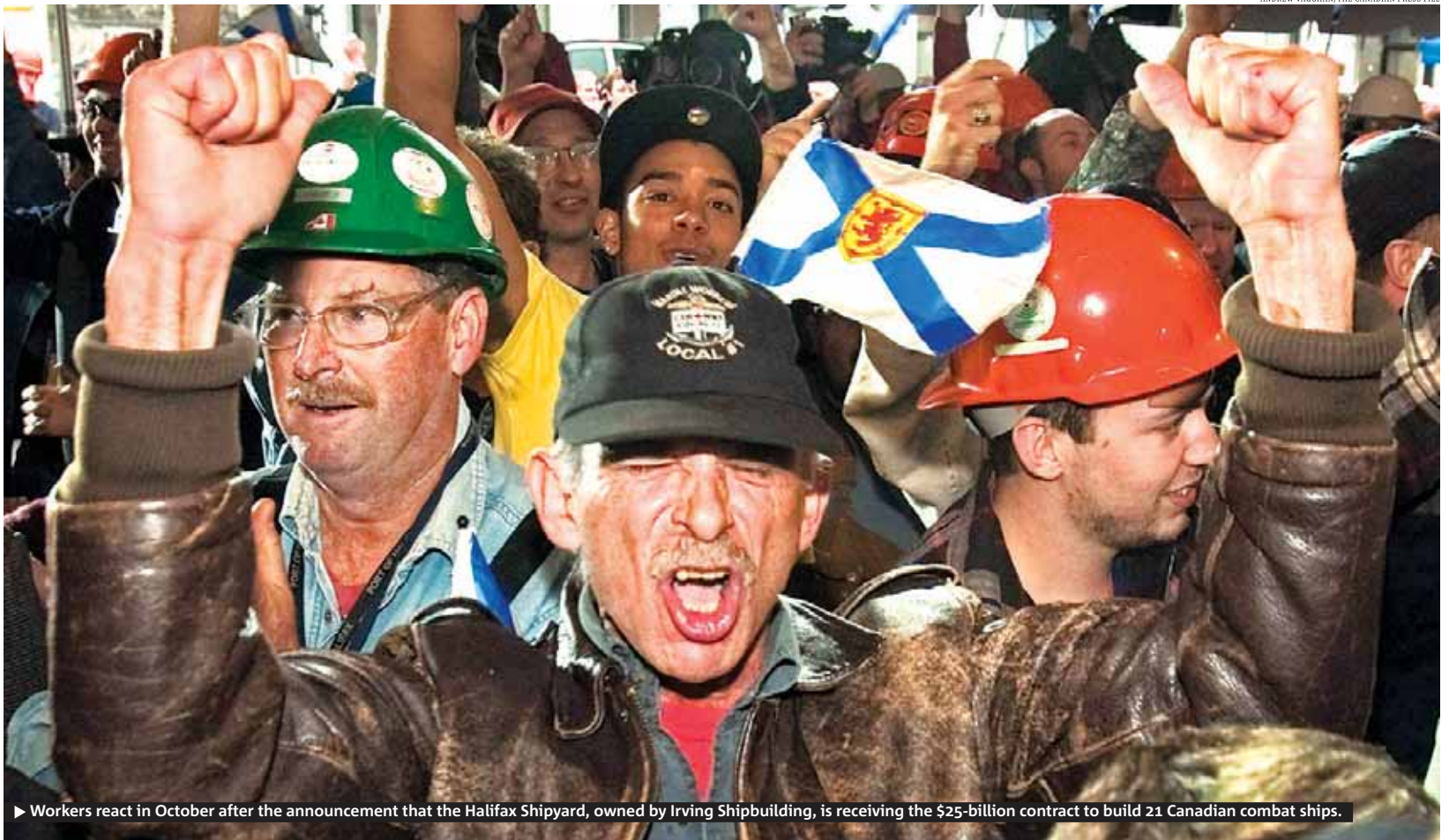
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► Workers react in October after the announcement that the Halifax Shipyard, owned by Irving Shipbuilding, is receiving the \$25-billion contract to build 21 Canadian combat ships.

Full steam ahead

► How will the landmark deal for Irving Shipbuilding impact Halifax? ► Metro Halifax looks at all the angles



**JON
TATTRIE**
FOR METRO

For years, Nova Scotians have watched a struggling economy push young workers west, leaving behind an aging population.

Late last year, the federal government awarded Halifax a landmark shipbuilding deal that could start to change that story.

The deal is worth \$25 billion over 30 years. Irving Shipbuilding will take the lead in constructing Canada's next generation of combat vessels. In all, more than 20 frigates, destroyers and patrol ships will be built in Halifax. Nova Scotia's government predicts that will translate into a \$600-million boost to personal incomes in peak years and create a 2.4

\$25B

After a request for proposals was issued on behalf of the National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy, Irving Shipbuilding won the bid for the largest of two contracts: A \$25-billion deal to build 21 combat vessels. This multibillion-dollar deal is one of the most valuable public sector procurements of the post-war era.

per cent jump in the province's GDP.

"This has been described as a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for Nova Scotia. The fact is,

some people never live to see an opportunity like this," said Premier Darrell Dexter.

Averaged over the 30-year lifetime, it's expected the contract will create 8,500 new jobs annually. That means some of Nova Scotia's sons and daughters will return from out west, and others will follow. Many more will never have to leave in the first place. Add in spouses and children, and HRM can expect to add 20,000 people to its population.

In this special feature, Metro digs deep and spells out how the contract will change life in Halifax. How many jobs will be created? How many people will move here? How will it affect the real estate market?

11,500

The shipbuilding contract is expected to create 11,500 local jobs for the economy during peak years and 8,500 during an average year. Irving Shipbuilding itself is anticipating a peak number of 2,700 employees compared to its current staff of 1,400. It expects to start growing its trades workforce sometime in late 2013 or early 2014 and is currently accepting resumés on its website.

You will find the answers inside.

Our team of reporters will tell you how it will impact services in Halifax. Those new residents will need garbage collection, policing, hospitals and schools.

Is the city prepared to handle the rise in demands? Will the increase in demand for municipal and provincial services

drive property taxes up?

We will tell you when you can expect to see things start to happen and how the work will play out over the coming years. We will tell you how the province is going to recruit and train workers.

We will tell you how HRM plans to provide schools, hospitals and entertainment for all its new residents. All those

extra people will require transportation. How will Halifax respond? What about those long-discussed plans for light rail and a fast ferry?

Heck, we will even tell you how it will affect your dating life.

We will pull back and give you the big picture, too. You will learn which industries expect to see growth from an increase in business connected indirectly to shipbuilding — and why it might be a good time to open a restaurant or train as a nurse.

Finally, we will look way down the road and ask how the province can make sure the growth doesn't stop when the contract ends sometime around 2042. Ships do indeed start here.



CREATAS/THINKSTOCK

Food for Thought

► Restaurants, pubs will benefit from the extra disposable income



**RICHARD
WOODBURY**
FOR METRO

During good economic times, people spend more on things like entertainment and recreation. During downturns, they spend less.

One form of entertainment spending is eating out at restaurants and it's something that has struggled in recent years, says Ashley Coffin, the communications co-ordinator with the Restaurant Association of Nova Scotia.

As a result of the ship-

building contract, she says some of RANS' members have a renewed sense of optimism.

"I'd say there is more optimism within the core of Halifax, of HRM, because that's where most people are going to be living," says Coffin.

She says that at the present time, expectations for this current year's sales are modest.

"We predict that 2012 is going to have a little tiny bit of growth," says Coffin.

She figures the restaura-

► There is optimism among local restaurants that families will go out to dinner more often with extra disposable income.

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\$400M

The economic boost is expected to entail an increase of more than \$400 million in personal disposable income during peak years of the shipbuilding project. Housing and construction, transportation, communications, retail, and entertainment sectors are anticipated to benefit the most from this increase in spending.

rant industry will begin benefitting from the shipbuilding contract as early as next year. However, five years down the road, she expects business to be brisk, pegging the growth at a "conservative" 30 per cent over today.

Coffin figures some types of restaurants will experience more growth than other types.

"I think we'll see it more in the pub and fami-

ly dining kind of area," she says, noting the impact will be felt less in high-end restaurants.

Part of the reason for the improved sales will also be the increased population that will settle in Halifax to take advantage of the increase in economic opportunities resulting from the shipbuilding activity.

"You're going to have a lot more people in the city," says Coffin.

"Therefore, you're going to have a lot more people going out to dinner, going to a pub for a few drinks or something like that."

At the Ardmore Tea Room, owner Mike Cormier is expecting the shipbuilding project to be good for business.

"I think it can't do anything but help," he says. "It's a lot of people with very good jobs, jobs that will allow them to have some disposable income. In a place like this where we do a lot of breakfast and stuff like that, I think it'll be good."



► More people are expected to grab a drink after work with friends and co-workers.

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People of Retirement Age: Proposed Development in HRM

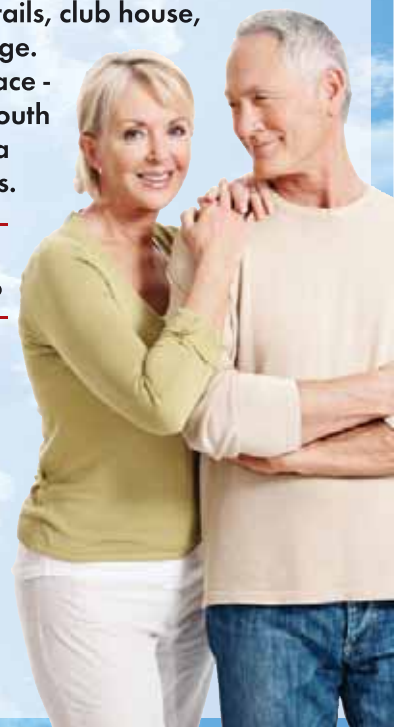
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RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

On the waterfront

► Ambitious planned projects are set to dramatically alter the skyline



While the shipbuilding contract is too new to have had an impact on the cityscape of HRM, there

are a handful of ambitious projects for Halifax and Dartmouth that are set to dramatically alter the cities over the life of the project.

Developer Fares Inc.

was thrilled to hear the news that up to 20,000 people will be moving to HRM to work on the shipbuilding contract. Fares's massive King's Wharf project is underway and is well

situated to offer homes to many of the newcomers. When it's done, the project on the Dartmouth waterfront will consist of five buildings, mixing condos, apartments, commercial

and retail space. Two residential buildings are under construction and due to open in the fall. The 109-metre-tall centrepiece of the King's Wharf complex has not started, but is slated to open in 2015.

It will be certain to lure Irving employees with the one thing downtown Halifax can't offer them: A million-dollar view of downtown Halifax.

What is currently a giant hole on Argyle Street, strewn with mannequins for an art project, is still supposed to become the Nova Centre, the much-discussed new convention centre, office building and hotel. All three levels of government have pledged financial support for the \$300-million project, but developer Rank Inc. is looking to secure anchor tenants before breaking ground.

If the shipbuilding contract increases the need for related professionals in the city — think accountants and lawyers — that could be good news for the Armour Group's Waterside

\$350M

The project is expected to generate more than \$350 million in federal, provincial and local tax revenue. Over the course of the project, municipalities are expected to see almost \$250 million in property tax revenues, which will assist in stabilizing residential and commercial property tax rates.

Centre near the Historic Properties in downtown Halifax. The planned nine-storey office building has clearance to proceed, but work has not started.

Sands at Salter spent the summer as an urban beach and it will likely stay that way for the next couple of years. It is high-value land on the waterfront, but has no developer yet.

If other developments in HRM go ahead and find success, Sands at Salter could follow with a signature project.

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Expected boom is ‘perfect timing’

► HRM task force can make some adjustments to the Regional Plan



The HRM task force overseeing the city's growth during the shipbuilding years goes by the covert-sounding name of RP+5: Phase 2.

In English, that's Regional Plan, five-year review. Phase 1 of the 25-year plan, which started in 2006, was focused on downtown Halifax. Phase 2 is expanding to the urban cores — peninsular Halifax and Dartmouth inside the Circumferential Highway.

Andy Fillmore, HRM manager of urban design, says the shipbuilding population boom is exactly what the municipality needs.

"It's perfect timing. We can make some adjust-

ments to the Regional Plan to accommodate this incredible opportunity," he says.

"HRM has very slow growth, the province has slow growth, and when you make a policy change ... it's hard to steer that ship. This kind of growth gives the municipality steerage. We have enough momentum now that when we make a policy change, we can actually see the result."

The RP+5 task force brings its work to HRM council's standing committee on Community Planning & Economic Development, which carries its work onto the main body of council for approval. Fillmore highlights three themes you will see repeated through this feature: Where we live; how



► The shipbuilding population boom is exactly what the municipality needs, says Andy Fillmore, manager of urban design.

we get around; and how we spend the money.

The plan is to encourage people to live in the urban cores, get around by foot, bike or public transit, and spend the tax revenue improving existing neighbourhoods.

The flip side would be

expanding suburbs, using more cars and building services in new areas.

Fillmore says the task force is already seeing results from the first five years. It removed barriers to urban core development by streamlining planning rules so instead

of waiting two years, developers wait two months. He points to cranes at City Centre Atlantic on Spring Garden Road and work about to start at the Waterside Centre, the TD Bank Tower and the new Halifax Central Library.

The task force is also en-

"This kind of growth gives the municipality steerage. We have enough momentum now that when we make a policy change, we can actually see the result."

ANDY FILLMORE, HRM MANAGER OF URBAN DESIGN

couraging growth along "urban corridors" like Young Street, Wyse Road, Robie, Agricola and Gittingen streets. The infrastructure needs — schools, parks, recreation centres, businesses — are there and underused.

Fillmore says the task force hopes the result will be a greener, more sustainable HRM.

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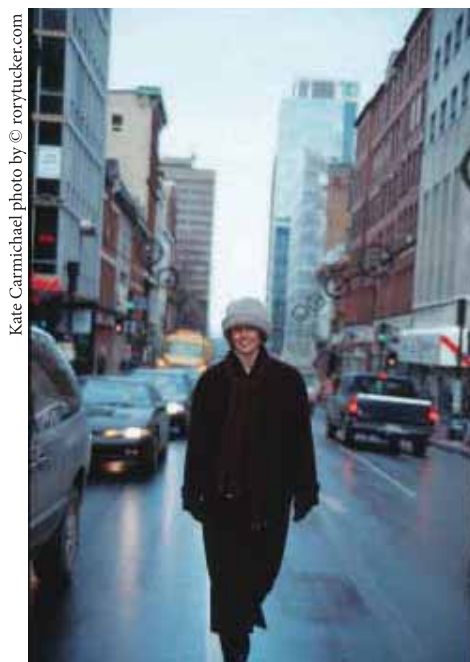
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Kate Carmichael photo by © rorytucker.com

Moving people from Point A to Point B

► Estimates predict that HRM's population could grow by 20,000, which means they need a way to get to work



JON TATTRIE
FOR METRO

It is estimated the influx of shipbuilding workers into HRM could increase the city's population by 20,000. Getting them to work will be a big challenge for the city.

Public transportation will step up to handle much of the increase in traffic. Lori Patterson, spokeswoman for Metro Transit, says they have been talking with HRM Strategic Transportation Planning and Irving.

"We will continue to work with them to identify new travel patterns being formed (and) how to best accommodate these new demands," she says.

Metro Transit is midway through a five-year plan to expand its network of buses and ferries. Patterson



► Public transit is expected to step up to handle much of the increase in traffic.

son says that while HRM residents love to dream about fast ferries from Bedford, light rail from Tantallon and under-harbour tunnels from Eastern

Passage, the reality will be more mundane.

"Buses may not be as attractive a mode of travel as rail or ferry, but they get it done," she says. "They are

cost efficient and help you build a sustainable system."

In short, Metro Transit wants to provide more buses, more often. Patterson

says it's driven by economics and flexibility. Buses can change routes to deal with changing population density, while trains and ferries are stuck with the tracks and terminals.

Metro Transit saw a 30 per cent growth in the last five years. It built a bigger garage in Ragged Lake and is buying more articulated buses to increase carrying capacity. The old Dartmouth bridge terminal is being modernized, as will the street terminal on Lacewood Drive in Clayton Park. The terminals in Highfield Park and Burnside will follow.

Metro Transit also wants to add more of the popular Metro Link and rural Metro X express buses, as well as a new ferry on the Woodside-Halifax route.

All of that work will al-

750

Automobile sales are expected to increase by about 750 new units per year of the project. This translates to an expected \$17-million annual increase in gasoline sales and \$7.5 million in car insurance premiums. Public transportation is also expected to see an increase of about \$5 million annually.

low Metro Transit to carry 26 per cent of HRM's traffic by 2031 — more than double what it could carry in 2009.

There will inevitably be more cars on the roads, too, but plans to handle that have not yet taken shape.

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► Impact of shipbuilding contract will change the needs for the city



The shipbuilding project will substantially increase HRM's population. Estimates factoring in workers bringing spouses and children put the number of new residents at about 20,000.

Statistics Canada counted 403,200 HRM residents in 2010, meaning the shipbuilding contract will increase the municipality's population by five per cent. Those people will need schools, hospitals, garbage removal and all of the other services expect-

ed of a city. Is HRM ready?

HRM had just started a five-year regional review of its services when the deal was announced. The plan "sets the visions and goals for HRM's growth and development over the next 20 years," says a report HRM provided to Metro.

"The impacts of the shipbuilding contract will change our city. More homes, facilities, services and programs will be needed to meet the needs of the 8,000-plus people employed directly and indirectly for the contract and its spinoffs, and their families. HRM is preparing for



► The expected influx of people will need increased services, including snowplowing, as well as more schools, hospitals and garbage removal.

these impacts," it says.

The strategy is to encourage population densification in the downtown

areas to make better use of existing facilities and services. As such, HRM wants to grow the popula-

tion of peninsular Halifax and Dartmouth inside the Circumferential Highway by 25 per cent.

"Growing the regional centre enables us to tap into existing infrastructure of roads, utilities, stores, services, schools, among many other things," the report says.

That would mean a real change from the way HRM has been growing over the past few decades — sprawl.

"This is a key consideration, as the cost of providing services to high-density areas is much less than constructing new infrastructure to service new developments farther from the core. Smart growth creates sustainable communities, where there is less sprawl, fewer cars on the road, and attractive and vibrant areas where people can live, work and spend leisure time," it says.

The urban core areas would not have to make major changes to absorb another 20,000 people. If newcomers choose to settle in the outlying suburban and ex-urban areas, HRM could find itself facing costly bills to stretch its network of services over greater distances.



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Word On The Street: What do you think of the shipbuilding contract?



"I think it's great for the city. I think it's great for the population. (I think it will result in) better garbage removal, probably better transit, better streets."

RYAN ALLEN,
LEAD PRODUCT INVESTOR FOR
CUSTOMER IMPACT MARKETING



"I think it's great. It will bring in business and lots of work to people here. (For me), unless they need some nice outfits or clothing for the workers, (it will) probably not (affect me)."

MANDY LEE DAWE,
COSTUME DESIGN STUDENT



"Because we're in the research and development business, any opportunity like this that creates more R&D in the region is an opportunity for our organization. A boost like this doesn't come along very often."

STEVE ARMSTRONG,
PRESIDENT AND CEO
OF GENOME ATLANTIC



"I think it means jobs, which is a good thing. It probably means increased housing prices, which is good for people who are selling, but not buying. I think it keeps young people here at home and not have to go out west."

MARILYN CHALLIS,
RETIRED AIR CANADA EMPLOYEE



"It sounds like they're hyping it up to be a lot of jobs. We'll see if that comes through ... It probably won't affect me too much. I will probably be out of here in a couple months, but maybe I'll come back."

CONNAL MCNAMARA,
HISTORY OF SCIENCE AND
CREATIVE WRITING STUDENT



"I think it will bring a lot more people here and some people that are going out west, it will bring them home maybe and just make our city a better place to live in with more opportunities."

EMMA LAFFIN,
CO-OP STUDENT, WORKING
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RYAN TAPLIN/METRO



Much has been made of the \$25 billion that will be added to Nova Scotia's economy by the shipbuilding contract, but it will come at a cost.

As outlined in other articles in this feature, providing municipal and provincial services for the 20,000 new residents won't be cheap.

Will it drive your taxes up?

The contract is forecast to generate up to \$250 million in new municipal property tax over the life of the project. In a report called RP+5, HRM staff say that's not a greatly significant figure.

"Although the estimated \$250 million in property

"Much of that revenue (and other property tax) will be invested into growing housing opportunities, transit and active transportation infrastructure, along with neighbourhood and community amenities."

tax is a boon in helping to meet HRM's community planning, infrastructure, and service delivery needs, it is small compared to the overall cost of providing services to a growing population," it says.

Much of that revenue (and other property tax) will be invested into growing housing opportunities, transit and active transportation infrastructure, along with neighbourhood and community amenities.

"Such investments im-

prove our quality of life, reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, and would be sustainable over the long term," the HRM report says.

A Greater Halifax Partnership report predicts the project will generate more income taxes, too. Federally, it forecasts an additional \$66 million per year, while the provincial take will grow by \$51 million. Corporate income will grow by \$34 million per year.

"Given the aging popula-

tion and the increased pressure on public spending for health care, this two-decade-long source of significant tax revenue will be very important," the GHP report says.

More money will boost the local economy in the form of an additional \$400 million over the life of the project in disposable income spent in local stores, restaurants and entertainment spots like night clubs and cinemas. Construction businesses are also expected to earn more.

The GHP report concludes all of this "will assist in stabilizing residential and commercial property tax rates."

HRM financial staff said it was too soon for them to agree or disagree with that assessment.

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If you build it, will they stay?



The shipbuilding contract will only change Halifax Regional Municipality permanently if many of the workers stick around after the job is done.

Marilyn More, the provincial minister for labour and advanced education, says companies will want to hang on to talented workers, and the province wants to grow with newcomers. "We have great economic opportunities in front of us that will require both employers and employees to step up their game. All Nova Scotians need to ask themselves what they need to do to adapt to our new workforce realities," she says.

Her department provided some tips for employers to attract and retain workers:

► Regularly upgrade your

"We have great economic opportunities in front of us that will require both employers and employees to step up their game. All Nova Scotians need to ask themselves what they need to do to adapt to our new workforce realities."

MARILYN MORE, PROVINCIAL
MINISTER FOR LABOUR AND
ADVANCED EDUCATION

workers' skills. If employers spend time and money upgrading their staff's skills and knowledge of



► Employers will have to adapt to the new workforce realities.

new equipment, they will have a workforce ready to thrive in the future — and happy to continue to work for an employer that values them.

► Create a welcoming workplace. The new work-

ers will likely largely come from Canada, but they will also come from all over the world. Make sure your workplace is sensitive to cultural differences and open to diversity. Come-from-aways who are made

to feel like come-from-aways might just go away again.

► Welcome the worker's family. Often, workers will bring husbands, wives or children. Often, it will be the family that decides to

stay or leave. Provide a "welcome wagon" to newcomers introducing them to the wider community and resources in it. Give them a local buddy to turn to for advice on life in HRM.

► Boost workplace safety. Nothing says "I care" more than ensuring your employees are able to work in a safe environment. An unsafe, unwelcoming workplace will drive good staff out and let the bad thrive.

► Keep growing. A successful, dynamic workplace is more likely to retain workers in the long term than a stifled one.

► Be good to work with and work for. Create a good corporate culture by recognizing achievements, supporting employee health and seeking employee opinions. Engaged employees are more likely to work productively — and less likely to look for work elsewhere.



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RYAN TAPLIN/METRO

‘Shock Period’ on the horizon

 **GISELLE
TATTRIE**
FOR METRO

Although the shipbuilding contract is expected to span the next 30 years, 2012 to 2030 has been dubbed the “Shock Period” — the time frame that’s expected to have the biggest impact on Nova Scotia’s economy.

Negotiations on the first part of the contract, the deal to build six Arctic Offshore Patrol Ships, are expected to conclude in late 2012. From 2012 to 2013, engineering and design is slated to begin on the patrol ships and steel will be cut for their production, which is slated to wrap up in 2020.

Production of the six patrol ships is expected to overlap with the design and engineering of 15 Canadian Surface Combatants (frigates and destroyers)

21 The shipbuilding contract includes the design, engineering and production of six Arctic Offshore Patrol Ships plus 15 Canadian Surface Combatants (frigates and destroyers).

from 2015 to 2018. The 15 combatants are expected to be completed by 2041.

In 2020, the six offshore patrol ships and 15 combatant vessels are slated to be in production simultaneously — making it the busiest and most lucrative year for the project. That year, Irving Shipbuilding expects peak employment to reach 2,700.

A Conference Board of Canada study forecasts an additional 11,500 local jobs in 2020 due to the project, as well as a total boost of \$897 million to Nova Scotia’s GDP that year.

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NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE PHOTO

Opportunity knocks

► Post-secondary institutions will play primary role to meet job demand



**RICHARD
WOODBURY**
FOR METRO

With the shipbuilding project, there are both blue and white collar compo-

nents to the project. Not surprisingly, this is going to create a large opportunity for local educational institutions to help meet the demand with its graduates.

"I think the direct jobs related to the shipbuilding contract, in terms of constructing the ships and all of the component parts that will go into the

ships certainly lends itself to the type of learning our students undertake, the types of professions they pursue," says Don Bureaux, the

president of Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC).

Not surprisingly, NSCC has seen a large boost in the interest of its programs. For example, NSCC had four times the number of applications in November 2011 than November 2010 for its welding program at the Akerley campus. At its Pictou campus, the increase was ninefold.

At Dalhousie University, the school sees its role in the shipbuilding project as providing graduates with the right skills, as well as being involved in research.

"Dalhousie will be involved in the research side of things initially through our faculty of engineering, but also through the Halifax Marine Research Institute," Stephen Hartlen, the executive director of Dalhousie's Office of Industry Liaison and Innovation, wrote in an email.

He says it's likely that programs will be added or modified over the

course of the shipbuilding project.

"The picture will become clearer when actual construction starts," he says.

At Saint Mary's University, there haven't been any programming changes to date relating to the shipbuilding project, says spokesperson Steve Proctor.

That being said, he says faculty and administration will continue to look for ways to work with private sector partners to ensure Saint Mary's grads have the skills needed to meet future opportunities.

"While much of the direct trades training will be carried out by other institutions, our business students are taught the skills that will allow them to fill supervisory and project management positions and our computer science program will create students ready to take on the technical tasks associated with the IT and software engineering parts of the effort," Proctor wrote in an email.

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► Wages skyrocketed during Alberta's oil boom ► Will same happen here?



Alberta has the hottest economy in Canada, boasting average weekly earnings of \$1,052.53. Nova Scotia sits near the bottom at \$779.43. The shipbuilding boom is a baby next to Alberta's oil, but it will drive some wages up. Will the bottom follow?

It has in Alberta. The vast need for workers means people leave when a better paycheque comes along. Despite an official minimum wage of \$9.90

an hour, most "minimum wage" jobs near the oil centres actually pay more than that. During the high times a few years ago, Calgary coffee shop workers were offered signing bonuses and earning double minimum pay.

Sonya Gulati, an economist with TD Bank, says the effect won't be as dramatic in Nova Scotia, and it will depend on the industry. Those directly involved in shipbuilding will do well.

"If Irving can pay twice as much as another manufacturer, you're going to

have all of your labourers go to that particular firm and you won't have anyone left for the other guys," she says.

If the others want to stay in the game, they will have to increase wages. Manufacturing, construction (especially residential) and industries related to subsections of shipbuilding can anticipate a wage rise. That will trickle through to other sectors because if the manufacturing businesses are doing well, they will need more accountants and consultants.

But the retail sector likely won't benefit. If a coffee shop managed with 10 staff pre-shipbuilding contract and loses two to better wages, it will probably just get by with eight.

"And something like a teacher won't have a lot of wage pressure because of the unionized environment," Gulati says.

Lars Osberg, an economics professor at Dalhousie University, agrees. "It would be nice to think that there will be so much

more demand for labour in Halifax that wages will be bid up for everyone, but I do not think so.

"Measured on a year-by-year basis, the Irving contract will not have a big enough impact on labour demand for that to happen."

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► Tourism, local festivals looking forward to increased population



RICHARD WOODBURY
FOR METRO

When Pat Lyall heard that Halifax had landed the \$25-billion shipbuilding contract, a thought ran through her mind.

"My immediate reaction was awareness, an opportunity to raise the awareness of Halifax as a destination," says the president and CEO of Destination Halifax, the agency responsible for marketing tourism in HRM.

Lyall feels the shipbuilding contract will help tourism in a number of ways, including strengthening the city's case as a

meetings and convention destination.

"There are organizations that hold meetings, conventions and congresses around the world for virtually every possible topic," she says, and that includes shipbuilding.

As part of the business transactions that will take place surrounding the contract, there will be more people travelling to and from Halifax for business reasons. Traditionally, business visits also involve taking in the local scenery, such as going to dinner, having some drinks out or going to watch a play.

RP+5

Regional Plan 5 Year Review

Kick off Event

Thursday, March 1

Lord Nelson Hotel - Imperial Ballroom
1515 South Park Street, Halifax

6:30 - Reception: All welcome!

7:00 - Presentation by guest speaker Calvin Brook

Calvin Brook is a licensed architect and planner, and is a Principal of Brook McIlroy. With 25 years of professional practice Mr. Brook has extensive experience in design projects ranging from individual buildings to comprehensive master plans for urban districts, campuses, parks and waterfronts in Canada and internationally.

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► Metallica frontman James Hetfield in concert at Garrison Grounds last summer.

"By virtue of the business end of it, people are exposed to the destination," says Lyall. "It's a sort of trial."

She says these people will consider returning for another trip and might even talk about their Halifax trip experience with other people.

"They become an extension of our sales force by virtue of the experiences they had while they were here on business."

Kim Hendrickson, the CEO of Premier Entertainment Group, the company

that puts on the Halifax ComedyFest and the Halifax International Busker Festival, is optimistic about the effect the shipbuilding contract will have on local festivals.

"More people in our city with disposable income will certainly affect festivals and events," she wrote in an email.

"Halifax must remain vibrant and provide many different sources of entertainment. More people with jobs means more people with income to purchase tickets."



► The Tall Ships Festival is a popular event.

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► Irving Shipbuilding has received close to 8,800 resumés since October ► Immigration to play key role



**RICHARD
WOODBURY**
FOR METRO

As a result of landing the \$25-billion shipbuilding contract, not surprisingly, Irving Shipbuilding plans to go on a bit of a hiring spree.

According to spokesperson Mary Keith, Irving plans to grow its workforce by approximately 1,500 over the next eight years to build the Royal Canadian Navy's new combat fleet.

It would appear the word is getting out to prospective employees.

"Since Oct. 19, Irving Shipbuilding has received close to 8,800 applications (70 per cent staff and 30 per cent trades)," Keith wrote in an email.

Currently, Irving has almost 20,000 resumés on file.

The positions that need filling will require people with specialized skills. For this reason, Irving is casting a wide net to find the right

"Immigrants will go to places in the world where there are good jobs for them ..."

**ELIZABETH MILLS, EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR OF NOVA SCOTIA
OFFICE OF IMMIGRATION**

candidates and is looking to Canada, the United Kingdom and the United States to fill this need. In fact, a hiring fair was held in Stirling, Scotland, last week.

Besides the people at Irving who will be working on the project, the increase in economic activity will ripple throughout the economy and create a demand for labour.

Nova Scotia, just like the rest of Canada, has an aging population, which means it is already challenging to find people to fill positions. This problem will only grow as the shipbuilding project takes effect.

To help with this, immigration will play a crucial role in filling labour market needs.

"Immigrants will go to places in the world where there are good jobs for them and where there is a future for them to have with their families," says Elizabeth Mills, the executive director of the Nova Scotia Office of Immigration.

Traditionally, Nova Scotia has struggled with the retention rates of immigrants, but that has improved considerably in recent years.

Consider that in 2004, the retention rate was 37 per cent. By 2010, it had jumped to 68 per cent.

Mills says that as the economy begins to boom, it will further help attract and retain immigrants.

"As the economy booms and there are good jobs available, those immigrants will find a life and will stay here," she says.



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**RICHARD
WOODBURY**
FOR METRO

As the shipbuilding project takes effect, some sectors of the economy will experience more growth than others.

Fred Bergman, the senior policy analyst with the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council (APEC), says the manufacturing sector will experience the biggest growth.

"Shipbuilding is part of the manufacturing sector, so that sector is going to see a big increase in activity," he says.

Other manufacturing sub-sectors will benefit and this includes metal fabrication and machine and welding shops.

Bergman says the construction industry will experience the second biggest growth levels, especially in the first few years of the contract where infrastructure will need to be

**"That's where
a good chunk
of our income
is spent,
on shelter."**

**FRED BERGMAN, SENIOR POLICY
ANALYST WITH THE ATLANTIC
PROVINCES ECONOMIC COUNCIL**

built on site at Irving Shipbuilding.

With more people working, this will lead to increased spending on shelter, both in the construction of homes, apartments and condos, as well as money spent on renovations.

"That's where a good chunk of our income is spent, on shelter," notes Bergman.

The professional services industry, which includes fields like accounting, law and engineering, will see the third largest gains, predicts Bergman.

He says that with large amounts of money changing hands, accountants will be needed to count the money, lawyers will be needed to iron out the details of contracts, and engineers will be needed for ship design and construction.

The wholesale and retail trade industry will experience the fourth largest growth rates, followed by the FIRE sector, which stands for finance, insurance and real estate.

"We know all of the people earning incomes are going to need finance, insurance and real estate, but the project itself needs financing," says Bergman. "It's a big project, there's going to be money borrowed in some cases."

The sixth largest rates of growth will be felt in the personal services sector, which includes things like daycare, dry cleaning, hairdressing and spa services.



► The construction industry is expected to experience the second biggest gains.



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**JON
TATTRIE**
FOR METRO

Publicity surrounding the shipbuilding contract throws around a lot of "millions" and "billions" of dollars, but how will that affect the cost of living for ordinary people not directly involved in the bonanza?

Sonya Gulati, an economist with the TD Bank Group, has studied the wider ramifications of the contract.

"The impact to our provincial economic forecast is most noticeable in

2013, when shipbuilding production begins in earnest and federal funds are flowing," she writes in her report. "This new project appears likely to create many thousands of new high-paying jobs over the next 20 or 30 years."

Reached on the phone at her Toronto office, Gulati says that will make life harder for those already struggling to pay bills.

"For a household that is really tight in terms of its budget, they're going to have an even tougher time making ends meet because their wage gains aren't



► How will the shipbuilding contract affect the cost of living, including buying food, for residents of HRM?

keeping up with their goods," she says.

She explains most people's wages were not keeping up with inflation as it was, meaning life gets more expensive each year. The influx of well-paid shipbuilders will add to that pressure.

"If a person was previously making \$65,000 and all of a sudden is making

\$70,000, and that happens all around the community, then you're going to have more wealth and you're going to have more demand for goods," she says. "That's going to mean prices are going to be increasing."

Gulati looked at Statistic Canada's Consumer Price Index for Halifax, which declined 0.1 per

cent in 2009. Factoring in the shipbuilding contract, TD forecasts it will rise by between 1.6 and 1.9 per cent in the next few years.

The increases affect the CPI's "basket of goods," the normal expenses of food, alcohol, tobacco, shelter, furniture, clothing, recreation, transportation and utility bills.

Each is weighted and collated into the final CPI number.

Gulati says it will be felt especially in housing. More people with better salaries competing over the same pool of housing means prices will rise for rentals and for buying.

The same basic effect spreads across the other components of the CPI.

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► New residents are expected to flock to Halifax's north end: Realtor



Although he doesn't have a crystal ball, Wayne MacIntosh already has a good sense of which neighbourhoods in the Halifax Regional Municipality will be popular to potential new residents moving here to take the jobs created by the Irving Shipbuilding contract.

"The north end of Halifax is going to benefit the most and the fastest," says MacIntosh, the president elect of the Halifax-based Nova Scotia Association of Realtors.

That's because the north end is close to the shipyard and — for now, at least — house prices there are fairly affordable.

Another location that MacIntosh predicts will be

popular because of its housing price point is Fairview, which has many detached and semi-detached houses, including several with basement apartments that generate rental income.

However, the south end of Halifax won't likely see a shipbuilding-related spike in new homeowners. "That area tends to take care of itself," says MacIntosh.

In recent months, realtors have experienced slow condo market sales all over the HRM. Condos tend to appeal mainly to two demographics.

The first is young people who want to get into the real estate game but have no interest in cutting the grass, shovelling snow or handling maintenance. The second is empty



► People window shopping along the popular Hydrostone Market in north-end Halifax.

nesters looking to downsize.

There may even be some spinoff to smaller communities an hour's drive away, such as Truro

and Windsor. People who are moving from big cities and used to commuting a fair distance to and from work won't mind travelling from outlying areas.

As for those planning to sell their homes in the next five to 10 years? There is good news tempered with caution.

"It will be very positive

that property values will increase," says MacIntosh. "But on the flip side, if you sell your house but want to buy another home in the same area, it will level out."

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Through the roof?

► It's anyone's guess how much home values will rise



At this point, it's anyone's guess how the federal Irving Shipbuilding contract will impact the Halifax Regional Municipality's housing market, but industry experts are forecasting good things to come.

The local economy in the HRM recorded modest growth in 2011, as both employment and the labour force increased by one per cent, according to the January 2012 Housing Now report released by CMHC's Market Analysis Centre.

Positive net migration to the city, low interest rates and the announcement of the shipbuilding contract contributed to an increase in apartment rental starts, existing home sales and average prices.

13%

The average price of a new single-detached home in the HRM increased 13 per cent in 2011 to \$400,405. The strong growth is due to an increased demand for higher-priced homes throughout the Halifax census metropolitan area, as 55 per cent of all new single-detached homes sold were in excess of \$350,000, compared to 40 per cent in 2010.

According to some reports, between 10,000 and 12,000 new jobs will be created in the HRM during the first decade of the contract, up to the year 2021.

"We have to ask, what does that mean for hous-

ing demand and value?" says Matthew Gilmore, senior market analyst at the Atlantic Market Analysis Centre.

For a slow-growing economy such as Halifax's, for every 100 jobs, 50 new housing units are built in the form of apartments, condos, townhouses and detached and semi-detached homes.

Employment is one of the most critical factors in new housing growth. "New jobs attract people from other parts of the province, country and world," says Gilmore. "All of those people need to live somewhere."

There is typically more housing movement within a larger population base, which will result in more home sales; predictions are between 200 and 300 more homes sold per year.

If you were planning to



► Industry experts are forecasting good things for the local housing market.

sell your home in the next decade, do you already have dollar signs in your eyes? While there is no crystal ball to forecast your future prospects, it

could be profitable timing.

"There's no question that the shipbuilding contract will lead to economic, employment and

population growth," says Gilmore. "All of that will play together in a positive way for the city, including on the impact for housing."

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► Current and potential homeowners in the HRM want to know whether residential property values are going to spike as high as they have in larger markets.

Will it be a buyers' or sellers' market?



With the impact of the shipbuilding contract looming large over the next decade, current and potential homeowners in the Hal-

ifax Regional Municipality want to know whether residential property values are going to spike as high as they have in larger Canadian cities such as Vancouver and Calgary.

The experts believe that

prices will rise, but not drastically — and not all at once. "Our market has traditionally been more stable than a boom-and-bust cycle," says Wayne MacIntosh, the president elect of the Halifax-based Nova Sco-

tia Association of Realtors.

The average price of a new single-detached home in the HRM increased 13 per cent in 2011 to \$400,405. Despite an increase in sales, the average price of an existing home in

the HRM decreased 7.3 per cent in December to \$248,893.

That decline in price is partially due to an increase in demand for home in submarkets that are below the overall average price, specif-

ically the city of Dartmouth and Sackville, where sales increased 45 and 23 per cent, respectively.

In the city of Halifax, there was an increase in demand for lower-priced homes in above-average priced submarkets, where sales of homes priced below \$250,000 increased 20 per cent in December.

The statistics support the fact there are good things in store in the years ahead — especially if you are planning to sell.

"Sales are taking place all over the HRM," says Matthew Gilmore, senior market analyst at the Atlantic Market Analysis Centre.

But what about outlandish bidding wars? So far, they aren't happening. Currently, homes in the HRM tend to sell for 97 to 98 per cent below the asking price.

Although average house prices have nearly doubled in a decade, "We don't have any data to support that bidding wars exist," says Gilmore. "That would certainly be a sellers' market."

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Tips of the trade

420

An influx of residents and increase in disposable income during the shipbuilding "Shock Period" (2012 to 2030) is expected to drive the creation of 420 new housing units per year. This translates to millions in additional spending per year on home utilities, property taxes, home maintenance and repairs, and homeowners' insurance.

renovating a bathroom or kitchen.

Paul Pettipas, the CEO of the Nova Scotia Home Builders' Association (NSHBA), doesn't believe there is cause for concern on either front. "I don't predict any tremendous increases in house prices," he says. "It's not the way our economy works."

As for finding a contractor for any size reno, Pettipas advises planning ahead. "Spring and summer are the busiest time for contractors, so start calling them in the off-season. As for new houses, our contractors build all year long."

Because the shipbuilding contract was announced last year and isn't

expected to ramp up for another two years, contractors have advance notice to plan for increased demand.

"The shipbuilding contract is a 30-year project, and the builders and renovators know what's coming," says Pettipas. "They have time to staff up. We're already getting calls from tradesmen in Alberta who want to come home to work."

More demand will bring more supply in the form of expanding trades programs at regional high schools and community colleges.

Pettipas is optimistic about the next few years. "I think it's going to be a good time to be a homeowner and a contractor."

► For the best results, start calling builders during their off-season



JANE
DOUCET
FOR METRO

There is no question that the \$25-billion Irving Shipbuilding contract means positive things are going to

happen in Halifax. But even though the contract is only in its initial strategic-planning phase, residents are already wondering about potential downsides.

One hot topic of conversation is the value of residential real estate; the buzz is that house resale prices will spike in the Halifax Regional Municipality, especially on the peninsula.

Another issue is that builders may be so busy keeping up with the demand for new housing, it will be impossible to find one who has time to take on smaller jobs, such as

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Plan ahead when researching project

▶ Limited number of contractors may alter renovations



It's always a good idea to have your renovation or homebuilding plans finalized well before you want the work to start. That advice will still be golden when Halifax starts reaping the economic rewards of the Irving Shipbuilding contract.

For homeowners who are planning a reno or new build during that time period, Paul Pettipas has this advice: "Just do what you were going to do when you were planning to do it," says the CEO of the Nova Scotia Home Builders' Association (NSHBA). "Don't change your plans because of the shipbuilding contract."

That's all well and good, but if it can be challenging to find a contractor willing to come over to tackle a

Word of mouth

▶ When searching for a contractor, it's a good idea to get people you trust to recommend someone they have used and liked. "Ask your friend or neighbour, would you use that person a second time?" says the NSHBA's Paul Pettipas. "If they say yes, even though the builder was slow, that's a good sign."

small job now, won't there be a shortage of tradespeople when the shipbuilding contract moves into production mode?

"There's a limited talent pool right now, but there's lots of time for supply to increase," Pettipas says.

Contractors have plenty of advance notice to arrange to take on extra workers, and trades programs in high schools and

community colleges are expanding to meet the forecasted demand.

Shipbuilding contract in play or not, it's important that people don't hire the first contractor who is available without carefully checking their references. "You don't want to get into a situation where the job might not get finished, or it might not get finished properly," says Pettipas.

Also, make sure the contractor specializes in the type of work you want, such as a bathroom, kitchen or addition. Don't be afraid to ask for references and photos of previous work. "Good builders will be proud to show you their work," says Pettipas.

To find out if a contractor is reputable, can contact the NSHBA's office in the Bayers Lake Business Park at 450-5554 or visit nshomebuilders.ca.



▶ Shipbuilding contract in play or not, it's important that people don't hire the first contractor who is available without carefully checking their references.

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JANE
DOUCET
FOR METRO

Halifax is home to six degree-granting universities and three community colleges that provide a full range of high-quality post-secondary courses to more than 40,000 students.

When the Irving Shipbuilding contract moves into its initial production phase, will students have a harder time finding affordable accommodations in the HRM?

If they are planning to attend Dalhousie University and they want to live in residence, their chances of securing a room will actually improve in the near future. Dalhousie is moving forward with a \$48-million project in which two new residences with a total of 700 beds will be built.

"The first one on

LeMarchant Street is scheduled to open in September 2013," says Ken Burt, Dalhousie's vice-president of finance and administration. "Work on the second residence will begin after the first one opens."

For those who would rather live off-campus, Burt predicts a continued trend of students renting apartments in the suburbs, where rents are less expensive than in the city's pricey south end, which is within walking distance of most of the post-secondary schools.

While Saint Mary's University isn't planning to build additional residences at this time, "Millions of dollars have been spent upgrading the existing residences in recent years," says vice-president of finance Larry Corrigan. "We don't have a waiting list at the moment, and we ac-

commodate 35 NSCAD University students in our residences."

At Mount Saint Vincent University, officials are "monitoring and talking about" how the shipbuilding situation might impact their student body over the next several years, says vice-president of administration Brian Jessop.

Currently, there are 405 residence beds available at the Mount, which is located on the Bedford Highway. "We have never been in a position where we've had to turn students away," says Jessop. In fact, half a dozen Nova Scotia Community College students rent residence rooms at the Mount.

The Mount isn't planning to build new residences at this time, partly because many students prefer to live in apartments off-campus.



► Dalhousie University is moving forward with a \$48-million project in which two new residences with a total of 700 beds will be built.



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Love is in the air

says the dating scene in Halifax has a few things working against it.

"Everyone is married off and stuff by the time they are in the early 20s, so if you're older than that, there's a lot less options for people," she says.

Because of Halifax's drinking culture, Brown says meeting people at bars can seem like the only option. Halifax also doesn't have an equal ratio of men to women.

Because women go to university at higher rates than men, women live in the city in greater numbers because that's where the highest paying jobs are, says Marina Adshade, a Dalhousie professor who teaches a course called the Economics of Sex and Love.

"The thing about the shipbuilding is it's drawing in a lot of jobs that are kind of engineering, science-based jobs," she says. "Even though there are more women in university, those jobs are still dominated by men. I personally think the dating scene is going to improve considerably with

"An economic boom to the city could very well mean more marriage in Halifax."

MARINA ADSHADE,
DALHOUSIE PROFESSOR

the shipbuilding coming in because it should bring more men into the city."

With the increase in population, Adshade expects more bars to cater to a slightly older demographic. She says another potential side-effect of the shipbuilding contract could be more nuptials.

"An economic boom to the city could very well mean more marriage in Halifax," she says.

This is because people hold off on getting married during uncertain economic times. "People don't stop having relationships in hard economic times," says Adshade. "They postpone marriage and live together instead."

► Dating is a numbers game ► More people means more opportunities



RICHARD
WOODBURY
FOR METRO

For people who are single and ready to mingle, the shipbuilding project is go-

ing to mean good things for their love life.

"Dating is a numbers game and it's about getting out there and meeting as many people as possible

and seeing who is the right person for you," says Lola Augustine Brown, a Halifax writer who is sympatico.ca's resident love expert. "And if the

numbers are up, then that's only going to mean that everyone's got a better chance of finding someone to be with."

At the moment, Brown

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► More businesses expected to cater to the needs of parents and families



**RICHARD
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FOR METRO

As one of the partners in the parenting resource website, hrmparent.ca, Sean Williams is expecting the shipbuilding contract to increase the number of programming activities available for families in HRM.

"You're going to have all these people moving here from away or coming back home," he says. "I imagine a large portion of these folks are going to be parents."

Besides an increase in programming activities, Williams envisions that entrepreneurs will also start businesses that cater to the needs of parents and families.

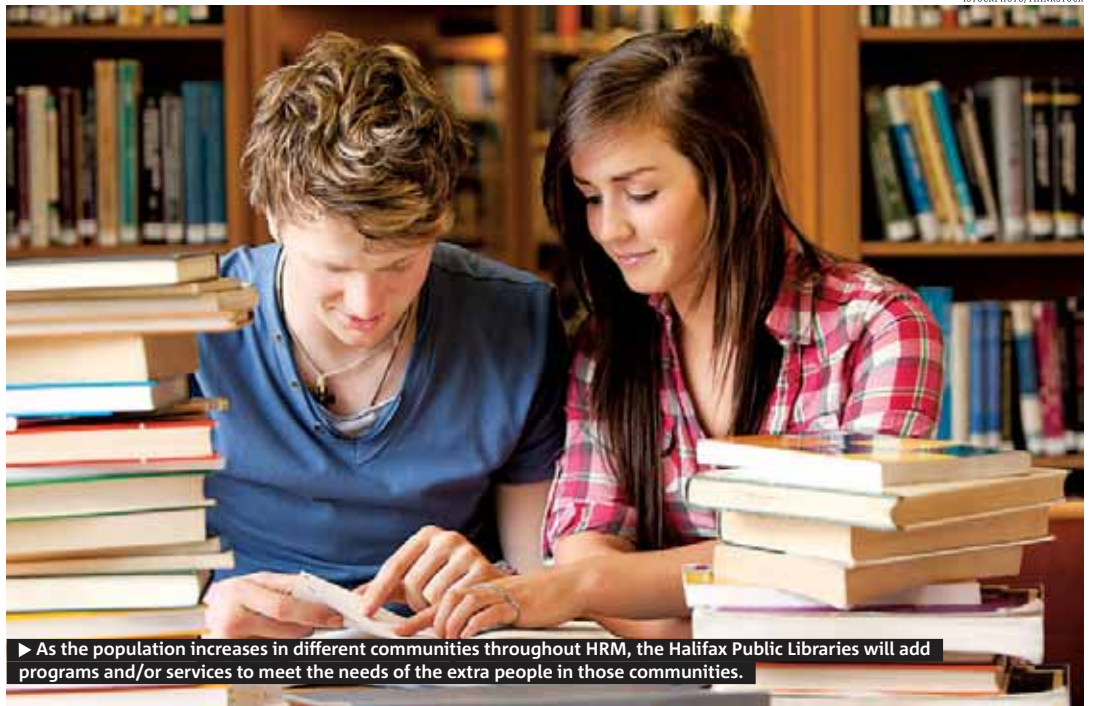
"I would imagine with more people moving here,

it would offer those that are thinking about ... setting up a new business the reason to do it," he says.

On HRM Parent's website, it lists events and activities taking place in HRM, as well as a listing of products and services available to families. These listings will no doubt increase as the shipbuilding project and the associated economic spinoffs take full effect.

With 15 branches in HRM, the Halifax Public Libraries (HPL) is an example of an organization that will be affected by the shipbuilding project. HPL offers programming for families and its activities include family drop-in programs and puppet shows.

"The impact of the shipbuilding contract will be incorporated in this plan-



► As the population increases in different communities throughout HRM, the Halifax Public Libraries will add programs and/or services to meet the needs of the extra people in those communities.

ning, for families and the service as a whole," HPL spokesperson Marlo MacKay wrote in an email.

She says that as the population increases in

different communities throughout HRM, the library will add programs and/or services to meet the needs of the extra people in those communities.

Unrelated to the shipbuilding contract, HPL already has plans in the works for families for the Central Library, which is scheduled to open in 2014.

MacKay says it will feature a floor specifically devoted to the needs of families.

It would appear the timing for that new library couldn't be better.

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